St. Louis August 21st 1839.

My dear Ann,

I can inform you, that my health continues good, which I esteem one of the greatest earthly blessings, bestowed upon mankind, And fondly hope these few lines which I shall attempt to communicate to you, may find you enjoying an equal degree of happiness.

After bidding you farewell in Cincinnati for a while, I proceeded on my voyage to this City, and met with but very little obstruction during the passage. I remained in Louisville about 24 hours longer, than what was generally our usual stay at that Port. This I did in order that the late rise of water might get further in advance of us, After leaving Louisville I had no detention getting out of the Ohio except at one place, known as the Cumberland Island Bar, at which place we was compelled

to loose one night, as we were first aground, and did not get off in time to run the shallow water before dark, From this latter place I spoken of, we proceeded on our voyage without further difficulties,

We had upwards of twenty Cabin passengers when we left Louisville, they all seemed well pleased with the "Monsoon," our manner of doing business &c. — The length of our trip from Louisville to this city was four days. I have since that time, made a trip as far as Quincy & back, And am now loading for New Orleans, and expect to leave this day at 2 O'Clock P.M. with good freights, and fair prospects of business, as the larger class of boats have mostly all stopped running, in consequence of low water. —

The Yellow Fever is raging to considerable extent in New Orleans by late accounts, But I hope thro, the favor of Divine Providence, to be one of the fortunate number that may escape that awful disease. It often raging, to an extent

which is called an epidemic, in all Southern climes, —

I saw Mr. Chappell's family as I returned from Quincy, Anna & Catharine had been quite ill, so that they were confined to their beds for something like two weeks, but were able to be about when I saw them, And the family all enjoying tolerable good health for Alton, I have not seen or heard any thing from Egbert, since I saw you, — I shall probably to run between St. Louis & New Orleans for some time, provided health & business will permit, I shall be pleased to hear from you soon, a letter directed to St. Louis with my address will be sure to come to hand, I send you two papers, one of them contains a [illegible] given me by the passengers on board the "Monsoon" on her last trip from Cincinnati to this city. —

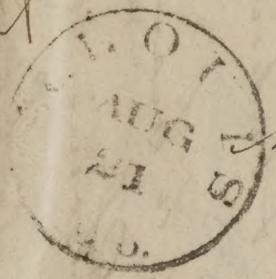
My best respects to your Mother, Miss Jane & all enquiring friends, And please accept the same for yourself,

I remain your Affectionate Friend,

C. G. Pearce

Single

PAID 25 Paid



Miss J. Ann Sackett,

Cincinnati,

O.

Cincinnati August 28th 1837

My Dear Gardner

I was much pleased to receive your letter of the 21st as I had been expecting to see you or hear from you for some days; about a week before the reception of your letter it was announced in our city papers the "Monsoon had arrived at St Louis on the 13 with a tribe of the Sons of the Forest" ——— I was much pleased to hear of your safe arrival at that port and was truly in hopes that you could there make such arrangements as to relinquish all idea of going south — but as such is not the case — and your business calls you there — I sincerely hope you may be spared from that pestilence which the New Orleans papers have announced has become an Epidemic ——— we will be anxious to hear from you and hope you will write shortly after your arrival at St Louis

those papers you sent have not yet arrived — we have received some papers and a letter from Egbert and I rather think he has come to the conclusion "there is no place like home" but yet has no idea of returning — he says business is very dull and river very low caused by Franklin Prin attempting to drink it dry according to Franklin's late adventure in the water ——— Our river is very low which I presume you are aware of — and we have had extreme warm weather since you left us — and while the heat was raging two young gentlemen of our city thought they would have an "affair of honor" as it is generally called they attempted to take the lives of each other but were prevented — they were Mr Boulden and Merryweather ——— Mr B received many wounds but will recover — but it is believed and feared they will have another

meeting which will terminate more seriously —— do you know the parties ———— I was pleased to hear from the Chappells as I had not from them for some months —— Mary's silence I cannot account for unless all her spare moments are devoted to Mr A

And now I have a favor to ask and if you can make arrangements to grant it I shall be much gratified — it is to have your portrait. can you devize any plan that it can be got from Mr Langdons without their suspecting the object — if so I will be much pleased —— Mother and Cousin Jane wish to be kindly remembered to you and that you may be successful in your movements, and safely return to those who wish to see you is the sincere wish of

Your affectionate
Jane Storm Sackett

N. B Cousin Jane hopes you will return soon to have some of our June peaches that are ripening fast.

meeting which will terminate more seriously —— do you know the parties —— I was pleased to hear from the Chappells as I had not from them for some months —— Mary's silence I cannot account for unless all her spare moments are devoted to Mr A

And now I have a favor to ask and if you can make arrangements to grant it I shall be much gratified — it is to have your portrait. can you devize any plan that it can be got from Mr Langdons without their suspecting the object — if so I will be much pleased —— Mother and Cousin Jane wish to be kindly remembered to you and that you may be successful in your movements, and safely return to those who wish to see you is the sincere wish of

Your affectionate
Jane Ann Sackett

N. B Cousin Jane hopes you will return soon to have some of our fine peaches that are ripening fast.

39

25

CINN
AUG
23
O.

Capt. [illegible] Pearce
St. Louis
Missouri

Ans. Sept 18th 183[illegible]

Saint Louis Oct. 14th 1839

My Dear Ann.

Your esteemed favor bearing date of the 1st inst. was thankfully received by me last evening immediately after my arrival at this port, and pleased to learn by it, that you are in possession of good health, with the exception of a bad cold, which is not very pleasant. I can inform you that my health is, and has been very good.

The Yellow Fever in the City of New Orleans is said to have abated considerable. But I think it is for want of subjects, — as every person that could leave the City have done so — However I could conceive during our last trip in N. O. that business prospects looked more flattering. The new Cotton crop briskly coming in market, which generally gives a new life to the whole commercial affairs of the City — We had a good trip down & back being full freighted both ways, and made the voyage in less time than any boat this season. As the "Monsoon" stands No 1. on the list of quick time, we also had the misfortune in making our last trip to come in contact with Snags at three different times, two of which entering the cook house and carrying every thing away while they

brought up against the Main wheel, and then one of them walking up in the Cabin and taking full possession of two State Rooms — The other entering the Blacksmith Shop on the opposite side laying it nearly prostrate as well as doing considerable damage to the guards. The boat escaped without any injury — I am making repairs again as fast as possible, to be in readiness for the next trip by the 17th or 18th inst. — It will cost something like $300 — to make our repairs good besides some detention of time — Do you can perceive that we have some bitter with the sweet —

We had not a single case of Sickness on board during the last trip. which is not often the case at this season of the year. —

—— Lawyer Perin is in the City, And informs me that he has relinquished his professional business in Iowa, sold his Books &c. And now soliciting to get a situation as clerk on some Steam Boat. or in some Commercial house. He is very anxious to go with me as Clerk or any way that I will take him. But as I know he would not suit me, I cannot give him any encouragement in the way of a situation on the boat — If he does not obtain a situation here, I have proposed to give him a passage to New-Orleans and let him try his luck there, as I am anxious to see him doing something, he states to me that he is considerably involved, which I suppose is no doubt the case, this to you I consider confidential, as well as any thing

Par voie de mer direct à St. Louis au
soin de
C.G.P

Cincinnati Oct 26th 1839

My Dear Graner

After hearing from you last I waited with anxiety to hear the result of your second trip to N Orleans, on receiving yours of the 14th inst I was gratified that you had reached St Louis in safety and in good health — we received a paper from Egbert last month stating that the Monsoon would leave for N O on the 28th I did not know how to understand it but come to the conclusion that it was a mistake which has proved to be so — I begin to think the remark you made about not returning for 6 months will prove to be — but rest upon the belief you will return as soon as your business will justify you to do so — it is with pleasure I hear of your good success so far — and that your boat escaped with no greater injury than that you mentioned — although that appears great enough — but I think little in comparison to a sunken boat — you say the Monsoon stands at 3/ in quick time I hope it may always stand at 3/ in that respect — as at least as long as E. G. P. has an interest in it — am I too selfish? — —

I am surprised at what you informed me concerning H Penn Egbert wrote to us he had left Iowa and had gone to see not where to seek another home, but gave us no reason for his leaving — I am led to conjecture that Franklin was more fond of pleasure than business is the cause of his indolence — he must have seen that unless he applied himself more closely to business he would never gain a reputation or be comfortable and yet it did not appear

to arouse him — I hope he may be successful in getting a situation and profit by his past experience —

I received a Davenport paper some time ago from some unknown one containing the marriage of Mary Penn — is it characteristic of Iowa to expedite business in the manner that Mary and Mr Sargant has or was it a peculiar way of their own — it is so unusual to us that it excited considerable surprise among her Friends — I expect he Publisher here must have heard of it about the same time I did — for the day after I received my paper her marriage was announced in every paper in our city, so you may suppose it is pretty generally known — you say he is represented as a worthy man I hope it is so — and that Mary may prove herself equally so — and that their union may be a happy one — —

I have just heard from our North Bend Friends — and one of the Miss Harrisons a younger one than you saw when there with us — without thought or reflection eloped with a young carpenter a youth about 17 years of age — he was employed with his Brother finishing the house for Mr Pike — and I suppose Anna Maria thought it best to have a Lord to preside over the mansion — believing her Grandma would send for them after marriage which she did — & I suppose ere this reaches she will much regret this unfortunate step she has taken — as the deed is done I hope she may not regret it — for I have many good friends there —

Yesterday my cousin Miss Allen called and took me riding — we went to Mount Pisgah — the place you will recollect we once started for — when on our return we it in the wise head to return — it is a delightful place to visit, so much so that I regretted while there that we did not reach it with you were with us — knowing you would have enjoyed it much

Cousin Jane received your papers with much pleasure and thanks for (she did not think very strange of my predictions) —

Mother and cousin desire to be kindly remembered to you — again I must bid you adieu. hoping to hear from you soon — if you should be detained so as not to reach St Louis regularly I hope you will write wherever you may be ———

Affectionately Yours

J ottum Hackett

Answ. Jan. 19. 1839

20

Capt. C. G. Pearce

St Louis

Missouri

St Louis Nov 19th 1839.

My Dear Ann,

With pleasure I acknowledge the receipt of your kind favor, bearing date of the 26th ult. I have sought for it, with anxiety, and after receiving it, have perused it with cheerfulness, I infer by it, that you are all in good health, which I consider the greatest happiness that can be realized on Earth, — I arrived here yesterday and expect to leave again for N. Orleans on Thursday the 21st inst. which will make my sojourn here very short. The City of N. O. is quite healthy at present, and no doubt, will remain so through the Winter & Spring, there was but very little fear when I was there last, but we understood it was still raging in Vicksburg and Natchez though to no great extent.

There has of late, been quite an excitement here, respecting the Missouri Bank, It appears that the Bank had been receiving and paying out bills of nearly all the different Banks in the Western Country, that were considered good, for nearly three years, or since it has been in operation, they have made large negociations with this Money, And drawn in nearly

all the notes of their own Bank, and now for all notes & obligations due the Bank by Merchants and others, they demand by a Circular issued forth to the people of St. Louis by the Officers of the Bank, that they would not received any thing in payment but Specie or notes of their own —

The business men seem violently opposed to the measures the Bank has taken, and it is generally supposed the Bank will have to return to its old method of doing business — during the excitement there has been strong talk as I have been informed, of tearing down Jno. Smith Esq. private residence, Mr S. is President of the Institution, — There have also been several Murders of late in the City, one of which you can see particulars in a St. Louis paper, that I am going to send Miss Jane, — I have not seen or heard any thing from Mr. Mc L. Chappell's family for many two Months, therefore I cannot write you any thing about them, any more than I understood by some of their friends here, that some of them, were going East this fall. this intelligence I also received from you,

I left Mr. F. Perrin in New Orleans in rather low spirits, he had not obtained a situation and not being acquainted with Mercantile or Seaney any other kind of business, it will I fear, be hard for him to obtain one, he is then thrown upon the World now to look out for himself — Without anything, I took great pains in going around with

him, and making him acquainted with my friends, in hopes that some of them might be able to do something for him, in the way of giving him a situation, But friends are very scarce in N.O. unless a person has plenty of the needful to buy them with — I gave him $30 — as well as his passage down which will just pay his board for one month in N.O. after that. I dont know what he will do in case he dont get a situation, I hope he may find as good friends as I have been to him for the last year. — The weather is quite pleasant here, but feels very much like Winter after being in N.O. — I see by the Pittsburgh papers that they have had something of a rise there, I have no doubt but what it has probably reached Cincinnati before now, there was no signs of a rise when we passed up by the mouth of Ohio, — I dont know when you will see me up there, but I expect the first thing you know I will be there, if the Ohio should continue to rise, I expect to return here again, probably the next trip I may come to Cin'ti, if the navigation will permit. — You will please write again to this place, I am somewhat surprised at Miss. Harrison's late flight, Ascension or descension, or, whatever it may be termed in Matrimonial affairs —

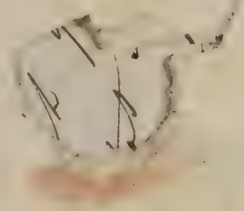
My respects to your Mother & Miss Jane,

I remain Yours Affectionately,

C. G. Pearce.

I should like to have with you, when you went out to Miss Farm, I think must had a pleasant time, I have not been riding since I was with you.

C. G. Pa



Miss J. Ann Farm

Cincinnati

O.

Cincinnati Dec. 2. 1839

My Dear Gardner

I was much gratified on receiving your letter which arrived on the 29th as I had anxiously looked for it for 6 or 8 days and began to think something serious had occured to you I made calculations how long I thought it would take you to go to New-Orleans - and return to St Louis - and when to look for a letter but it appears I was a week or more ahead of you in my calculations I am pleased much pleased to hear of your safe arrival and good health I see from the papers that New-Orleans is free from the Feber that has so lately raged there so that I feel you will be free from that danger — we have lost one of our citizens by the Feber at Vicksburgh Mr Farar of the Firm of Miller and Farar formerly Egberts employer we have just heard from Egbert — he has some idea of coming home as business is so very dull — his employer Mr Starr is about to give up business — or if he does not — he does not do business enough to employ a clerk — Egbert regrets leaving him very much as he says he is a very fine Fellow — if he does not succeed in getting another situation he will come home — he has some idea of going to N Orleans first I think quite likely you will meet in St Louis or N Orleans — My Brothers Charles left here about a month since and arrived in St L on the 19th I expected you would have met somewhere on the Mississippi — as he makes no mention of it in his letters I supposse you passed in the night — and more than likely will do so again as he returns — the river is rising and is quite high in comparison

to what it has been during the summer — a very great number of boats of the smaller class are arriving and departing daily — as much as I wish the Monsoon would come here I must be candid and say that I think the river is not sufficiently high for it, as no boats of that size has yet arrived — a very splendid steamboat and I am under the impression it is of the larger class left here last week for N.C. I may be mistaken as to the size of the boat — it has a Beautiful name — "The Queen of the West" — you may see it and can then judge of the state of our river ——————

it is now raining and has the appearance of raining for some time which I hope will prove the case — so you can venture here with safety on your next trip — You have said we would not see you until Christmas — and I have no idea we will — but Christmas is drawing nigh and I much hope you will be here then — but if circumstances should prevent your coming — permit me to wish you a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year and cousin Jane joins me in my good wishes to you and says we will keep the day in remembrance of you if you should be prevented from being with us — Your papers to her have not yet arrived — but she thanks you kindly for your Favors ——————

When I wrote you last I apprised you of a marriage at North-Bend — I have another to announce — it is none other than our little rosy cheeked friend Miss Goodrich to Mr. Mitchell who resided in Cleves that little village we passed through on our way to — Katy Morgans — Katy officiated as Bridesmaid — you recollect her I think — Mary Ann Goodrich made no wedding therefore we were not present — She is a very worthy girl — and I wish her all the happiness this world can afford her ——————— About a week since

I received a letter from Shaw Bothwell — I think they have declined going to Baltimore this season as Mary says not a word about it — She thinks her Father's prospects are quite flattering with the Morus Multicaulis — they expect to move in the country in the Spring but I think they will remain in Albion — She thinks her Father will realize quite a fortune in the Spring from the sale of his Trees Mr Moffit is in the city and as usual attracts a crowded house — We are all well — Mother and cousin wish me to present their best respects to you — and please accept my best wishes for your success in all your movements —

Yours Affectionately

Jane Ann Sackett

P.S — The papers which you sent have just arrived —

St. Louis Dec. 16th 1839.

My Dear Ann,

Your esteemed favor of the 2d inst. was rec'd on my arrival in this City, which was on the evening of the 13th. Since then, we have discharged our cargo in St. Louis, been to Alton took in a full freight, and now already to hand for New Orleans. We have tomorrow the 17th with the last downward freight, I have had, since I have been running to N.O. — You may judge we have not been idle, as we went to Alton on Sunday, and finding the Ice very bad & fearful that we might have trouble in getting out, (in case we delayed) then we thought proper to commence our labours on the Sabbath & did not stop day nor night, until our load was completed —

I saw Mr Chappells family, whilst I was in Alton, they were all well I think they have given up visiting the East. This Winter,

I met with your Brother Charles in New Orleans, and had the pleasure of his company on our trip up, as far as the City of Cairo, at the mouth of the Ohio River, he has no doubt reached Cincinnati by this time, —

as he was very anxious to see his wife & I suppose would take the first communication he could find, bound for Cincinnati, either by land, Wind or Water, & if it should be as cold there, as it is here, it will be a week to see communication. — On our trip up we met a great many boats, out of the Ohio "The Queen of the West," among the rest, but it was in the night, we did not see her, and also, passed a great many — I was sorry on my trip up, that I did not start for Cincinnati, but as the weather has turned cold and a report has, that the Ohio is rising on fall, I dont know but it is well I did not venture up the River, as I have succeeded well in getting a freight at Alton, being ahead of all the other boats, —

As I cannot fully determine which way I shall go from New Orleans, as it will depend some on what way I can make the most profit, I think you had better post, from writing, until you see or hear from me, —

I am very much obliged to you and Miss Jane for your good wishes towards me, on Christmas & New Years. I wish circumstances would permit me, to be with you —

I am glad to hear of Miss. Goodrich leaving us, because I think she was like most other Girls, wanted to get Married, I suppose it will be Katy's turn soon,

Please remember my best Compliments to your Mother, & Miss Sam, And accept my best wishes, for your health and happiness, is the sincere desires of your Affectionate Friend,

C. Gardner Pear

P. S. I have written this letter in some considerable haste, as you will see it fully shows for itself - If you can make out to read it, shall be glad, — I shall mail Miss. Sam a package of papers, the same time I do this letter.

Paid
25

Miss J. Ann Sackett,

Cincinnati,

O.

Saint Louis July 28th 1840

My dear Asa,

I can inform you that we arrived here safely last evening after rather a long voyage for the "Mondoora" we were detained about 12 hours in the Canal at Louisville otherwise we got along very well. The water was just high enough to admit us to pass, by touching a little at the worst places, we were obliged to lay by two nights on the passage, fearing we might get aground, and have trouble in getting off — I have concluded to lay the "Mondoora" up at this port for a while, how long, or which way I shall proceed with her next, I have not yet determined, I shall remain here a few days until I can settle my business here, And then proceed to Galena, how long it will take me to go to Galena & back to this place, I do not know, but I expect from 2 to 3 weeks as the water is very low above — On my return to this City from Galena, I expect to proceed

- to Cincinnati immediately, unless something should prevent, which I am not apprised of at present. — I think I shall be able to reach Cincinnati in about one month from this time, however I cannot set any certain time, but I will be as expeditious as possible, — I will write you again in a few days, from whatever place or City I am at. If any thing should occur in the mean time, I will inform you. — You will please write me, and direct to this City, as it will meet me here on my return from Galena. —

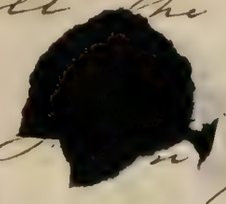
The Monsoon had a very fair trip around as usual, I met with considerable many persons here of my acquaintance, who are very anxious to have me return to Cincinnati with the "Monsoon" so as to enable them to take passage on her, But taking every thing into consideration, the probability of low water in the "Ohio" and knowing that I have to attend to business at Galena, and would have to return whether the boat could get back or not. Therefore I have thought proper to lay the "Monsoon" by to rest, and attend to my business before returning to Cincinnati —

I saw Mr. Copp a few minutes this afternoon he is quite indisposed, but not so much so, but what he is about attending to business,

I have not heard any thing from the Chappell family, as Mr C. did not go to Alton as he anticipated when I was last, but he still anticipates a pleasant visit there soon,

I shall not forget to send Miss Jane a few of our St. Louis papers.

Please remember my best compliments to all the family



Your Sincere and Affectionate Friend

C. G. Pearce

PAID 25

Paid

Miss. J. Ann Sackett,

Cincinnati,

O.

Saint Louis Sept. 25th. 1840.

Miss. S. Ann Sackett,

I can inform you thro' the assistance of Divine Providence, that my health is very much improved, I am now so that I can go about the House a little, and can just make out to write a feeble kind of letter, I dare not venture out yet, and probably will not for several days, Although the weather is very warm and pleasant.— I had been calculating to bring the "Monsoon" around when I came, but at present there is not water enough for her, unless there is a rise of water soon I think I shall only remain here until I get able to travel, and then take the first good light draught Boat that may heavily for Cincinnati, or Louisville— How many days longer I may have to tarry here I cannot say, As disappointment has already been my lot in being detained here, I dare not promise with any degree of certainty, what time you will see me, But I think probably within one week after the arrival of this letter, unless I should meet with much delay on the voyage around—

in consequence of low water—

I was taken ill on the fourth day after my arival at this City, from Chicago. If I had not been taken ill, I was then calculating to leave for Cincinnati in about one week from the time of my arival here.—

There is not much here I believe in the way of news. "politicks" seem to be the order of the day.— The Hon. Thos. H. Benton is visiting the City, but he is such a violent Loco foco, that the citizens of St Louis do not make but little parade for him, notwithstanding he is their Senator elect from Missouri.— The Steamer "Louisville" and "Maid of Orleans" are taking on board at Jefferson Barracks, ten miles below this City: between Six and Eight Hundred United States Troops, Officers and privates together, of the 8th Regiment, which is said to be the best disciplined Regiment in the United States. Their place of destination is Florida, when many, very many of them will leave their remains. the Steamer which they have now embarked on, will proceed no farther with them, than New Orleans.—

This Season, contrary to the expectations of every person, New Orleans has been, and still

continues very healthy. —

If any thing should happen that I do not leave for Cincinnati about as soon as I now expect, say, within the course of one week from this time, I will write you again. —

Mr. Stickney was up at Alton a few days since, and reports the Chappell family all in good health. —

I feel very well this afternoon, and it is quite pleasant out doors. I think of venturing out as far as the Post Office with this letter, as it is only on the Square off. —

I will please excuse the writing as my hand is not very steady. —

With my best compliments to you, and all the family. —

I remain Your Sincere and Affectionate friend,

C. Gardner Pearce

Paid 25

Mrs. J. Ann. Sackett,

Cincinnati,

O.

Mail

Cincinnati Sep 25th 1849

My Dear Gardner

—— You may imagine what my feelings were when I received the intelligence that you were sick I expected to have seen you with William the trip before the last but when that was not the case I anxiously looked for you 2 weeks every day and every hour in the day and not a person entered our house in the mien time but I listened and hoped it was you, but as you did not come I waited patiently for William's return again, not doubting for a moment but you would be with him and it was with pain I heard by him you was still on the sick-list— but feel very grateful you are in a fair way of recovering —— your 4 weeks have appeared very long to me— I little thought when you left us that you would be absent such a length of time and I hope before my letter reaches Saint Louis you will be on your way to Cincinnati —— many changes have taken place during your absence, Charles has broke up housekeeping and been boarding about six weeks but owing to Emeline's ill health and through the advice of the Physicians he left yesterday with her for Michigan to spend the winter with her friends thinking a change of climate will be of great benefit to her health ——

As it respects our city it is truly alive on the subject of

politics — political meetings are held almost every night in the public streets the crowds of persons that assemble at those meetings are immense — from 4 to 6000 generally attend — and you may be surprised to hear that hundreds of Ladies attend but such is the fact — to me it is an unheard of thing for Ladies to attend political meetings but in these days we must expect unusual things — the great wise and eloquent speakers are cheered by the presence of the Ladies and they say not a political meeting do they attend but they have the smiles of the Fairs prompting them on to duty and to rescue their country from ruin — a great convention is to be held in our city on 1st Dec— the Whigs throughout the union have received a general invitation and permit me to give you a special invitation to be here on that day of life and interest to our country — every Whig house is to be open for the reception of any to enter and a Banner to float from each house — now dont you think you will be better to be here and enjoy the scene — Cousin Jane says if you should not start before William returns to Saint Louis — and do not come with him — she certainly will be there to see you — when she takes that trip you may expect she will have company — we all regret your illness — sincerely, and Mother says could she have obeyed the dictates of her feelings she would have been with you —

I have written in great haste as William leaves to day — the family wish to be remembered to you — and please accept the love of

Yours affectionately

Ann Sackett

1546

Capt. C. G. Pearcy
St Louis
Missouri

Cincinnati Oct 2d 1841

My Dear Gardner

I was truly rejoiced in receiving your's of the 25th on yesterday 1st Oct and was much pleased to hear that you were getting better — I had no idea that you had been as ill as you have — as William seeing that I felt somewhat alarmed represented your sickness in as fair a light as possible and said you would be here in a few days, if I had known you would have been in St Louis when William arrived there the trip before the last I would have written — but all that time I was anxiously looking "living on Hope" but it appears that disappointment is the lot of all, we must submit ——— for fear you would be detained longer that you expected I thought I would write a few lines immediately as it might possibly reach St Louis before you leave — I wrote by William last week which you have received by this time and had I acted from the impulse of the moment I should have gone with it —

Yesterday was a glorious day for Cincinnati it is beyond all description I shall not attempt to give you any account but wait untill I see you and then I will give you as minute a description as is in my power ———

I will only write a few lines as I expect you here so

shortly and think it doubtful whether you will be in St-Louis when this arrives there —— You have my most earnest wishes for your speedy recovery —— Mother and Cousin desire to be remembered to you —— and once more accept the love of yours

sincerely and affectionately
Ann Jackson

P. S. Should you be taken with a relapse please let us know it immediately — had Egbert been well he would have gone down as soon as we heard of your illness — and he would have gone at all events had not William represented you as being in good hands with your friend Mr Stickney —

J. A. J.

Capt C. G. Pearce,
St. Louis
Missouri

Louisville Oct. 31st 1840

My dear Ann,

I arrived here this morning between 11 and 12. O'Clock A.M. We were detained by fog, was the consequence of our being so late. I think of leaving the "Lon" and taking passage on the S.B. "Hazard" which is now in the Canal leaving for St. Louis, the "Lon" will not leave here before tomorrow, and probably not then. And since I have departed from Cincinnati, I feel very anxious to perform my voyage as fast as possible, — Our passage thus far, has been very pleasant, considering it has been on a dirty Slow "boat". But good humor and jokes accompanied us (which are very common on our Western Steamers,) If we could not keep up with some of the faster boats bound our way — I merely drop these few lines to let you know that I arrived here in safety and in good health, And fondly hope this may find you in good health and enjoyment. I wish write you again, as soon as I arrived at St. Louis, My love to you, and all the family —

From your affectionate Husband

"In haste",

C. Gadsden Peace

SB 12

Mrs. Jane Ann Pearce,

care N. W. Thomas & Co.

Jr. Gen. Office

Cincinnati O.

Saint Louis. Thursday Evening
Novr. 5th 1840

Dear Ann,

I can inform you, that I arrived here this morning, making our trip from Cincinnati to this place about 5½ days, which was a tolerable fair trip for a slow boat, I did not leave the "Ios" as I wrote you I thought of doing at Louisville. the "Maine" left before I could get ready for St. Louis. consequently I had to remain on the "Ios" but did not travel much time as both Boats, arrived here nearly at the same time, I had a very pleasant passage around, only it seemed to me that I was leaving home. which attachment I have never so fully experienced for Cincinnati before. I find my friends all well here, and they highly congratulate my return, and proceedings during my absence in Cincinnati. — I received your letter with nearly twenty others this morning, which kept me busy for some time. — The S.B. "Fort Pitt" did not leave here until this morning. I saw William several times during the morning. but was engaged up Town when

the "Fort Pitt" departed, therefore I did not send any word by him, as I expected to write you soon, I thought a letter would probably go as quick by Mail, as news would reach you by the boat,

I shall commence to make some little repairs on the "Monsoon" tomorrow, and calculate on departing from this City next Monday the 9th. inst. (for where) for Cincinnati, "My dear, did you ever, hear of such a thing"

Mr Stickney came all the way around on the "Fort Pitt" he arrived here about the same time ahead of us, that she left in advance of us in Cincinnati,

I saw Charly Robinson this evening at the Hotel where I am stoping, he expects to come around with me, he also spoke of Cousin "Moll" whilst at tea, he thinks her a very beautiful Lady by his manner of expression, I said but little on the subject only I agreed with him in opinion,

I think if nothing happens, you may be looking for the "Monsoon" by the 15th inst. and it is not impossible that we may arrive at the fair City a little sooner, this is as near as I can come to the time, in case I do not arrive by the 15th inst. give yourself no uneasiness, as we are always liable to

-le to be detained, particularly at this stage of water, although the navigation is very fair for this season of the year. —

I sincerely hope this may find you, and all the family enjoying good health; my health remains good with the exception of a bad cold which I took soon after I left Louisville, but hope soon to be better.

My love to you, and all the family, with hopes that you may all enjoy yourselves is the sincere wishes of your

Affectionate Husband

C. Gardner Peace

P.S. I have given up the idea of going South at present with the "Monsoon," partly on account of its being an incident that "I never did hear of such a thing Dear," and secondly because I had rather be with you as much as possible consistant with my business than to be away from you. —

C. G. P.

25

Mrs. L. Ann Pearce,

care W. W. Thomas & Co

Cincinnati, O

Saint Louis Nov. 8th 1849

My dear Ann,

Since I wrote you, bearing date of the 5th inst. I have made diffrent arrangements from what I advised you of at that time, Instead of coming around with the "Monsoon" to the "Queen City" I have sold her to run as a regular Packet between St. Louis and Warsaw,- I was strongly advised by the Company that have bought, to retain my interest in the "Monsoon" or any part of it that I might wish, and still remain on her as Commander, But I have concluded to remain with the old Company as they are anxious to have me build a new Boat, for the Cincinnati and Galena Trade, I expect to leave here, for Cincinnati tomorrow (Monday) I shall take passage on the "Sanguin," If she should arrive in Cincinnati, sooner than I do, you must not think strange, as I shall have to remain at Louisville and its vicinity some little time. to ascertain what I can build for at the diffrent

-places, at, or about Louisville, I have not determined where to build, Whether at Louisville. Cincinnati or Pittsburgh, it will depend something on where I can do best in the way of making bargains. — So if you want me to remain with you in Cincinnati this Winter, you must advise your Uncle, Profit to be very liberal in the way of making their estimates, when I come on. — As near as I can judge now, you may look for me, about the same time I advised you in my last letter of the 6th inst.

My love to you, and all the family,

From Your Affectionate Husband

E. Gardner Pierce,

25

Mrs. L. Ann Pearce,

care N. Gp. Thomas & Co

Cincinnati O.

Louisville Saturday Evening
April 10th 1841

My dear Mom,

I can inform you that we arrived here this morning all safe, after passing a Steamboatman's paradise a dark rainy night. I did not return until 30 Clk & was up again before daylight so you can easily imagine how I passed the night — I thought myself the contrast between steamboating, and being retired with you, was very consi=derable, — We have been playing hood & foot here at the Landing all day, under pretence of leaving, by so doing we have nearly every berth taken, both in the Ladies & Gentlemen's Cabin, just before I commenced writing I guard my large family noticed that the Goddess would not depart until Morning. — This was a little shock at first but they soon got the better of it, after relish=ing a good supper which we found there, and all seemed quite cheerful again —

We shall land tomorrow morning Sunday about 10. O'Clk without fail, and

I think, what passengers we may get between now and the time of our departure will make us entirely full —

Egbert gets along very well, and I have no doubt will — He said that he had not left any thing behind — that he would — I had no word in particular to send home,

I will endeavor to write you again on my arrival at St. Louis, informing you which way I shall move from that point,

Give my love to all the family, and accept for yourself, all that your affectionate Husband's heart can wish, for your health and happiness. —

from Your affectionate Husband

C. G. Pearce

P. S. — The Citizens of this place [illegible] celebrated the day here, much as they did in Cincinnati yesterday, On the occasion of President Harrison's death.

AB12L

Mrs. J Ann Foard

care H. W. Adams & Co

Cincinnati O

Louisville June 17/45

My dear Ann,

I can inform you that we arrived here this morning at 6 o'Clock we had a safe trip down & with the number we got at Cincinnati we shall be only full of Passengers from this place,

We are drawing nearly all the water at the worst bars, but I think we can get out with our load, without much difficulty,

The Mail Boat is just ready to leave & I write in haste,

My best respects to all from your affectionate Husband

C. G. Pearce

Mrs J. Ann Peace

care R. W. Thomas & Co

Ky Pike 3

Cincinnati O

St. Louis July 7th 1841

My dear Ann,

I can inform you that we arrived here yesterday, & had quite a pleasant trip coming around, My health has been very good, since I left you at Louisville, I still pursue the Onion System at every meal, and think it will bring me out, — at all events I feel better now than I have for some time. —

I hope you had a pleasant passage up from Louisville, and that this may be dispatched to you in haste, & finds you enjoying good health, which is one of the many Blessings, that your affectionate Husband, sincerely hopes, you may always be endowed with! —

We shall probably remain here two days longer, in hopes by holding on that length of time, we may get a good lift. It is getting rather dull here in the way of Passengers, as the season for travelling is nearly over,

I avail myself the opportunity of sending this by the new Steamer "Little Ben"

which leaves here this morning for Cincinnati. —

You need not look for me until Monday night, or Tuesday morning if any thing goes on favorably. if to the contrary, it will of course be taken.

I must also inform you that we met H. Penn Esq. at Smithland Ky. on our passage down, at which point he had just arrived from N. Orleans by the Splendid Steamer "Eva Skipper" He very readily gethered his baggage & embarked on board the "Goddess" for any place, it might seem proper & profitable, for her Commander to dictate, He wished to keep up present appearances, and support the dignity & character of a Southern professional Gentleman living at his ease. —

As to help Frank on in his dignified state, as good luck would have it for him, Mr Holmes the Young Gentleman who had his Sister on board, was taken with a severe sick Ache, And as it was necessary, or complimentary for him to have Medical aid. We soon suggested

to Frank, the idea of introducing him to Mr H. as a very celebrated Physician from N. Orleans for the purpose of standing high in the estimation & good graces of his beautiful Sister, which he seemed to be very much enraptured with at first sight. — The suggestion fully met Franks approbation & he soon recieved an introduction to his patient Mr H. as a very celebrated Doctor from the South. This of course aided an introduction to the lovely Miss H. & from thence to all the Ladies in the Cabin. — Now you may very readily imagine how Frank. assumed Southern dignity during the trip, as he frequently accosted Doctor This & Doctor that &c. —

My best respects to your all, And a desire to see you soon, Is the sincere wish of your affectionate Husband

C. J. Pearce

Mrs. J. Ann Pearce

care N. M. Thomas & Co

"Little Ben" Cincinnati, O.

Louisville August 1st 41

My Dear Ann,

I can inform you that we had the misfortune to get aground at what is called the Eddys Flats, Eighteen Miles above this City, which detained us about 13 hours. We arrived here last evening & had quite a pleasant Trip down, except getting aground as above Stated.

I shall leave here this morning for St Louis, and expect to have some difficulty in getting out as I learn the Water is still declining below. If I have the misfortune to get aground on my way out the River, and should be detained any considerable length of time I will write you & send by some Boat that may be passing. Should I get along without much trouble, I will write you on my arrival at St Louis, and let you know what I calculate doing & when I expect to return &c.

We have considerable many passengers on board, But not a very good ship, as we have to refuse all freight's that is offered in consequence of low water, —

I hope your health will remain good, until I see, or hear from you

My love to you & all the family

From your Sincere & affectionate —
= Husband

C. G. Pearce

Box 102

Mrs. J. Ann Pearce,

care N. W. Thomas & Co

& "Little Ben"

Cincinnati O.

St. Louis August 9th 1841

My dear Ann,

I take the earliest opportunity to inform you of our safe, but long passage from Cincinnati to this fair City. We arrived last evening which made our trip just nine & a half days from Cinti, to St. Louis, Although we were a long time making the trip, I feel satisfied that we are thankful, when I wrote you from Louisville, I did not expect to get out as soon as we did, from what I heard about the stage of the River,

We were on Sand Bars a great number of times, and some times any Land, at one Bar it took two Steam Boats to haul us over, with our own assistance, —

Capt. A.C. Monfort of the U. States Mail Steam Boat came out in Company with us from Louisville and his Boat being lighter draught than ours he rendered me great assistance in getting out, For which, I am very greatful, and under Many obligations to him for, Without the aid which he rendered, I am confident I could not have got out of the Ohio —

— without a piece of water. —

I have worked like a good fellow, ever since I left Cincinnati, I was at the Capstan when we were Sparing off the Bars, at all times and places, Night or Day, as the case might be. —

We have discharged our freight and laid the Boat up until we can go on the Dry Docks, I expect to have to wait about the work before I can go on the Docks, as there are other Boats waiting which have engaged before me, — I was in hopes when I left Cincinnati to find one of the two Docks here unoccupied, But it seems that I am disappointed, and have no other remedy, but to wait until my turn comes, —

I shall have to remain here two weeks and probably longer to get through the repairs which I wish to do to the Boat, as I have to wait on the Docks; it puts me back just that length of time, I have to do some painting which cannot well be done until the Boat comes off the Dock,

I have not made any arrangements or calculations, about going to New Orleans If I conclude to load here for that place after getting through with our repairs, I do not calcu

- late on going down myself. —

You will please write me immediately on receipt of this, informing me of your health, how you are getting along &c, I shall be very long enough to receive a letter from you, — Should you be sick or any thing happen you, after writing your first letter, you will please write again informing me of the same, & I will head my business & come around forthwith — You may expect a letter from me, every 3 or 4 days, after the first, as I progress I will inform you, — I am anxious to return, as you I have no doubt, to be & receive me, (As there is no charms here for one,) My health is & has been first rate ever since I left you, And I fondly hope and cherish, that this may find you, and our family finds generally enjoying good health,

Egbert is well, I expect that we will take board at the Planters House in a day or two — And discontinue House keeping on the Boat for a while — I see a very handsome Card from the Passengers who came around with us this trip, for my perseverance & Conduct towards them, I will bring it with me when I come around,

Please accept my best love until I see you,

From Your Affectionate Husband,

E. G. Pierce,

leaving in a few days
a view of taking
this he told me in
a way — when he knows
better, to you —

Yours. C. G. P

P.S. Chappell's family have moved to St. Louis, and I believe are keeping a Boarding House — I understood Mr Alexander that his good Lady was somewhat indisposed, somewhat I know not. —

Mr. Stickney, thinks of
for Cincinnati, with
to himself a Wife
a kind of Confidential
I will send a letter by

PAID

St. Louis August 12th 1841

My Dear Ann,

I can inform you that my health still continues good, and fondly hope this may find you enjoying the same. — We are still laying up, anxiously waiting to go on the Dry Docks, But at present cannot say when we shall be able to get on, as they seem to be so very slow with the Boats that are ahead of us on the Docks. However I am in hopes of getting on within 5 or 6 days from this time, As we are entirely idle until we can get on the docks, So as to go ahead with our repairs. —

This morning about daylight I was awaken by the cry of fire, and immediately rose, and looking down the Levee amongst the great number of Steamers that are genirally moored at the landing, I saw quite a conflagration, And as I progressed near it soon ascertained that it was the great and Splendid Steamer "Missouri" She was cast off, from where she was laying along side other Boats, and shoved off in the River, But she soon grounded on the Bar

– just below the Landing, and then sunk nearly to the Water's Edge, before the fire was put out. – She would have sunk by burning, had the water been sufficient depth. But as she was on the bar she could not sink out of sight, and I suppose she will be nearly a total loss, as the fire will very much depreciate the value of the Engines, Capt. Swon, who was the Commander, and largest owner in her, has lost nearly every thing he is worth in the World, say $15.000. Capt. S. has been on the River for a long time & had made his money by Land Knocks, He had not a dollars worth of Insurance on his interest in the "Missouri", The balance of the owners except one Hundred, are supposed to be Insured. – We also hear of other losses. The Splendid Steamer "Caroline" on her ~~downward~~ upward passage from N. Orleans, Struck a Snag about 200 Miles below the mouth of the Ohio and Sunk, whether she is supposed to be a total loss or not, I have not yet ascertained. –

Myself and Egbert have called on Chappell's family since we have been in the City. & found them all well, Mrs. Alexander looks decidedly better, and healthier, than I ever saw her before, I had quite a long conversation with Mrs A. as it was the first time we had met since each of us were Married. – She says she would be

-much pleased to see you, But she has almost
given up the idea of availing herself the opportunity. —

Mr. Stickney leaves tomorrow morning for Cincinnati, on business of his own, I suppose however, his principal business is to get Married, I can only say, that I wish him all the happiness that a Married life contains. — I shall send this letter by Mr. S. who will deliver it at the House, —

Egbert is well, and sends his best respects to all the family, —

As I cannot say at present, how long it will require my attention here, about the Boat, — I cannot give you any set time when you may look for me, but will still continue to write you every few days, and as you know how I am prospering &c. —

If, (as I requested you in my other letter,) any thing should occur, that would be necessary for me to return, you will please write me immediately & to that effect. —

My love to you, and all the family.

From your Affectionate Husband

C. Gardner Reed

Mrs. J. Ann Pierce,

Cincinnati

Rev. W. Stickney

O.

Saint Louis Augt. 17th 1841.

My Dear Ann,

Your kind favor, bearing date of the 7th inst. by the politeness of Capt. Fuller, came to hand last evening, I was very much gratified to hear from you, I do assure you, And to learn by the contents of your letter, that yourself & the family were all enjoying good health,

We have not been able to get on the dry docks yet, our turn will come on the 20th inst, (in three days from this time) how long it will take to make the necessary repairs after we get on the dock, I cannot exactly State, but I think about one week, After we get through our repairs painting &c, I shall load the "Goddess" for N. Orleans if I think loading will justify, if not, I shall let her remain here, Whichever I do, it is my intention to come home as soon as I can, If I load the "Goddess" for N. Orleans, I do not expect to go with her further than the mouth of the Ohio, from where she will proceed to N. O. And I for Cincinnati,—

How long my business will call me from you, I cannot state, but I shall be as expeditious as possible, as I am anxious to see you, I will write you often and let you know how I progress with my business, And as soon as I can ascertain, I will inform at what time you may look for me home, —

Myself & Egbert are both enjoying good health, We continue to live on the Boat yet, & I think we shall not make any change as John is with us & feeds us so well, I am fatting up at the rate of half a pound pr day since I arrived here, I spend the time as happily as might be expected under existing circumstances, (it being far from the Subject I dearly love,) Myself & Egbert take a sunrise walk, every Morning for the benefit of our healths, We pop through the Markets & sometimes through the fashionable part of the City, before it is time for us to return to breakfast, which are generally take about 9 o'clk, — Except our morning walk, we are generally at the Boat, the remainder of the time, — We attended Church on Sabbath last in the Morning, and the balance of the day I spent on the Boat thinking of you, and reading the little Bible which you gave me, May great good grow

out of the same, in my behalf, I acknowledge to feel, what I had never realized before, — My conduct through life, however much I may have erred, has been by the purest motives of my heart, kindness to all my fellow beings, —

I have written you twice since I arrived here, one letter I sent by Mail, one by Mr Stickney, and this I shall send by Capt. Fuller who leaves for Cincinnati this Evening, or tomorrow morning, — You stated in your letter that Capt. Fuller expected to overtake us before we arrived here, but you can say to Capt. F. notwithstanding the low stage of water, & delaying which we had to encounter, that we made about as quick a trip as he did, —

I hope to recieve a letter from you again soon, And on recipt of This, desire that you may write me again, as I think it will be in time to reach me here,

May This find you, & dear all the family in the enjoyment of good health is my sincere wishes,

Accept my best love, & appreciate my feelings towards you,

From Your Sincere and Affectionate Husband

C. Gardner Paine

Mrs. J. Ann Pearce,

Postmaster of
Capt. Fuller

Cincinnati, O.

St. Louis August 20th 1841

My dear Ann,

I can still inform you, that my health continues very good, and fondly hope the few lines I am about to write, may find You, and all the family, Shareing an equal blessing,—

Your kind letter of the 7th Inst, came to hand for the arrival of Capt. W. Fuller, After perusing the contents of the same, which was very acceptable to me,

I answered it, and put the letter in charge of Capt. F. to take back to you, but as he did not leave here until yesterday, and fearing that he may have some delay on his passage back, I have thought proper to write again, and send by Mail, as I am anxious you should hear from me often, which I have no doubt, will be equally gratifying to you,

In your letter, you stated that Mr. Thomas, had sold his house, and bought a farm in the Country, This sudden change you state, Mrs. T. does not relish quite so—

– well, I must still add, that it is quite an unexpected change to me, – You will please inform me in your next, whether Mr Thomas expects to continue in the Pork business or not. –

We are progressing with our repairs slowly, but not on the docks yet, the Boat ahead of us requires more repairs and time, than they anticipated –

You may say to Mr Steckney, should he call on you, that I am well, and will write him in a few days. And let him know what time I shall want him to return, –

I contemplate loading the "Paddy" for New Orleans, as soon as we get through our repairs, should business seem good enough to justify. In case I load her, I shall remain on her, as far as the mouth of the Ohio, And then load her for Cincinnati, With full hopes of soon arriving at the place of my destination, when I can have the privilege of conversing with the Wife I dearly love, who is altogether important to me, as to my immediate, and future welfare &c, – It is probably all for the best that you did not come around here with me, taking your situation into consider-

=ation, But I do assure you, that you would have been a great source of Comfort and Society for me, which no one else can supply, I must acknowledge, that I have felt the sense of being loathsome, since I departed with you, which is quite an uncommon occurrence with me, as I have generally been content to call it home, wherever my lot has happened to be cast, —

Egbert is well, and has written a letter addressed to Mother, which will probably come to hand at the same time yours does, as we mail them at the same time, —

I see by some of the New York papers, that they have had some cases of the Yellow fever, But not enough to cause an Epidemic, —

Please write me on receipt of this, (as I expect to be detained here long enough to receive an answer from you,) and let me know how your health is, how you get along &c,

I send my best love to you, and all the family, and the kisses which I have on hand, I will bring with me,

From Your fond and affectionate Husband

C. Gardner Pearce

Tell cousin Jane not to grieve herself. If Mr. Stickney has been fortunate enough to leave the state of single blessedness, (which he said was some uncertain at the time he left here,) as I can assure her, there is a great gulf left open before her yet.

Miss Jane Sears,
care of Wm Farmer Esq.
Concord
N.H.

AUG 20

25

Saint Louis Aug. 28th 1841

My dear Ann,

Yours of the 16th inst. (through the mismanagement of the Post Office at this place,) did not come to hand until this afternoon, I was very much gratified to hear from you, and to learn by the perusal of your letter, that you were well. I have been anxiously looking, and expecting a letter from you, for some time, and very much wondered why I did not hear from you, as I supposed you had not forgotten me. The question is now solved, your letter must have remained in the Post Office here at least one week, And I should not have been in possession of it, even now, had it not been for Egbert, while enquiring for his own letters happened to ask for me, without expecting to get any, as my letters have always been put in Thos. McGunnegle & Ray's Box. I did not think or expect to find any, except at their House. By this mistake through the Offices of the P.O. neglecting to put my letter in Thos. McG & Ray's Box, it has kept me out of your

Spittle at last one week, - And caused a long pause in me, (as I was expecting a letter from you daily,) which on receipt of this I hope you will pardon, —

I can inform you that we are progressing very well with the repairs of the "Goddess" We are now on the Dry docks painting, caulking, &c, which will take us all next week to complete, As soon as I get through repairing I shall drop down to the landing, and proceed to take in Cargo for New Orleans, —

I cannot as yet, state when you may look for me, but I shall use all due diligence, as I am anxious to be with you, I hope you will bear my long absence from you, with your usual composure and fortitude, with the belief, that I am doing what I think for the best, —

I am very much pleased to hear of so great a change in my old acquaintance Mr A. Gordon, I have always thought him to be a very clever fellow, except when Whiskey or some other evil Spirit of the same nature had the upper hand of him,

I think Cousin Jane must begin to think herself almost used up, loosing Mr Lucking

on the one hand, and Jonny K. Green on the other, for my own part, I dont see how she can turn, to the right or left with any degree of certainty. — I will send cousin a few newspapers, in hopes they may help to console her in her dark days of disappointment, which have lately befallen her, And besides, make her think I am not as mean, as she has taken me to be,

Egbert is well, he left This morning on the S. B. "Breas" for Burlington on business of his own I think to close sale of Liquors sent them on consignment in the Spring, he will return in the course of one week. — Egbert wanted me to go home and state to the folks as he termed it, that he had gone to Burlington for the purpose of getting Married, I remarked to him that if I should make such a statement it might give you some uneasiness. He replied, Sweet Home, dont you suppose they think I know enough to take care of my selfs — Please Answer this on receipt and I think it will just be in time, before I leave, I shall continue to write you frequently,

My health continues very good, And I fondly hope This may find you in possession of the same, and that a continuation may attend you, until I see you. —

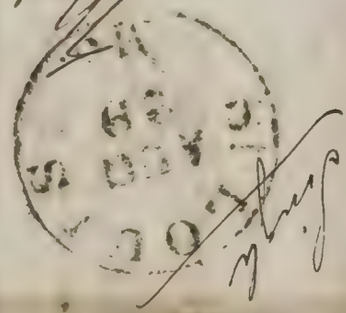
My best respects to all the family, and my love and all to you,

From Your Sincere and Affectionate Husband,

C. Gardner Peace

Sunday Morning.- I am going to put this letter in the P.O- and then proceed to Church —— Yours. C.G.P—

Miss J. Ann Sears
on Jr. M. Harwood C.
Cincinnati O.



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Saint Louis August 30th 1841.

My Dear Ann,

With a cheerful heart, and grateful feelings, I seat myself to answer yours of the 23d inst. which came to hand this morning— I can assure you it affords me great pleasure to hear from you so often although I am very sorry to learn that you are somewhat indisposed both in body and mind, I hope ere this, a change may have taken place for the better,— You must try to keep good resolution, with the anticipation of soon seeing me,— I will endeavor to be as expeditious as possible, with what I have to do, And leave the "Goddess" with the expectation of soon meeting the Wife I dearly love,

My Dear, I am aware now, that my business is calling me too long from you, at this time, But I hope it will all be for the best, eventually, if it does not appear so immediately.— I am prompting every will with their repairs, I expect to be able to drop down to the landing in one week from this time, And as soon as we can get a load, the "Goddess" will leave for N. Orleans,— I expect—

to remain on her as far as Cairo,
I cannot state how long it will take us to get a load here, nor how long it will take us to get out of the Upper Mississippi, as the water is quite a low stage at this time, - so you must not look for me, until you see me coming, then you will not be disappointed, — I will write you several times previous to leaving here, and state as near as I can, what time you may look for me, —

I attended church yesterday, and heard a very good Sermon, and injoyed it very well. but thought if you were only here to accompany me, I would have felt better satisfied,

I have not called on Mr. Chappell's family very lately, but presume they are all well. — Mrs. Alexander said when I last saw her, that she thought you possessed more fortitude than she should, after being seperated from her husband the same length of time,

little did she know or imagine how you felt in regard to this matter, As for myself I have all the anxious feelings to see you, that a husband can possess, when more than I can find words to discribe. — I hope Mr. Chetney has arranged his affairs in a manner that will

- satisfy his own mind, And he on the way for St. Louis, before this time, I wrote him about one week ago, to be him as soon as possible, after the receipt of my letter, —

Egbert I presume is at, or near Burlington by this Time, his intentions were not to tarry very long, but make as expeditious trip as possibill. — Tell cousin Jane that I have not dined at the Nantus House yet, Myself & Egbert have had several invitations from the Proprietors But we have not done ourselves the honor to partake at the Ladies Ordinary, therefore cannot imagine ourselves Count Rosin,

We have had very clear, and fine Summer weather ever since I arrived here, some part of the time has been quite warm, with only one good shower during the whole time, —

My health remains very good, and I sincerely hope this may find you fully recovered from your indisposed State,

Give my best respects to all the Family, And please accept the very best love, and wishes,

of your Affectionate Husband,

C. Gardner Pearce,

Read

25

AUG 31

Mrs. J. Ann Pearce,
care N. W. Thomas & Co.,
Cincinnati, O.

St. Louis Sept. 10th 1841

My Dear Ann,

I write informing you, that I leave this fair City tomorrow Morning at 10. O'Clock A.M. We have taken in as much loading as we want in consequence of low water I shall not load very deep, until we get down to the Mouth of the Ohio I expect it will take us about three days to get to Cairo, as we shall only attempt to run in day light.

Mr. Stickney has not arrived yet, I shall be compelled to get some one to take his place as Engineer for the trip, or until we meet him, if we should happen to be so fortunate as to find out what boat he is on while passing, so as to take him on board — I have not recived any letter from you for some time, I shall expect one by Mr Stickney, I have been very attentive to the Post Office daily in hopes that I might get a letter from you by Mail, I will look again in the morning before leaving the City.

I think if nothing happens, you may expect to see me in Cincinnati by the 20th of this month, which will give me seven days to get home from Cairo. If I should all longer getting to Cairo than I now expect, it may be after the 20th before I arrive, however as the water is very low in both Rivers, you must not look for me until you see me coming. — As I am very anxious to see you, I can assure you, that I shall proceed as fast as steam power will take me with safety. —

We learn by the Arrival of the S. Boat "Brownsville" this morning, that the S. Boat "Platte" is sunk at Sliding Island, about 20 Miles above Cairo, she will probably be a total loss — The S. B. "Glaucus" has just returned to this City to go on the Docks, she struck a snag about 50 Miles below this, on her downward passage to New Orleans & was so much injured that she had to put back for repairs & returns — We have had it quite warm and balmy here, for some time past, up to this morning, the weather has changed 20 degrees this morning, it is

quite cool with the Cabin closed this evening. —

If any thing should happen at Cairo, that I cannot proceed immediately on up I will write by the first conveyance so That you may know what is the cause of of my being detained. —

Physick & Egbert and both in good health, And I fondly hope This may find you enjoying an equal blessing. — My best respects to all The family — And please accept the kind and best wishes of your

Affectionate Friend

G. L. Clarke

Single

25

Mrs. Jane Pearce

care N. M. Thomas & Co.

Cincinnati, O.

St. Louis Sept. 2. 1841

My Dear Ann,

Again with pleasure, I seat myself to answer yours of the 26th ult. Which came to hand yesterday. I have perused it with cheerful feelings, anticipating that I may soon see you.

We are getting along very well with our repairs, I expect to come off the dock tomorrow, and drop down to the landing ready to receive fright, on Monday or Tuesday next, I think I can load and be ready to leave here about the 10th inst, if the weather should prove favourable. I think of running up as far as Alton, if I can engage fright enough previous, to justify doing so. The notice you sent me of Mr Stickney's marriage settles the winning question, and I suppose puts all hearts at rest concerned. I expect him to arrive here soon, but as I have not heard any thing from him, I dont know how he feels about leaving his better half behinde, Perhaps circumstances that I am not aware of, may detain him longer than I expect.

— Mrs. Capt. Monfort, arrived here a few days ago, by the Steamer "Orphan Boy", in pursuit of her Husband, who she expected to find here, Capt. Monfort left here with his boat for N. Orleans about one week ago, his Wife on learning that he had gone South, took the Steam Pre-emption, she being the first boat bound for New Orleans, and proceeded on after her husband, in hopes of meeting him at N. O. or previous to arriving there, as his boat might be on her return trip, Mrs. M. acts very imprudent in travelling alone, without any protector, besides I heard some very hard stories against her, which I have every reason to believe, to be true, Now I set her down among the LOW, LOW. —— These particulars I will communicate to you verbally, when we meet. — Capt. M. does not expect his Wife, he thinks she has gone to New York, where she anticipated going when he last heard from her. — — — — — —

I have not heard from Egbert, since he left, but look for him back in 2 or 3 days,

I saw Mr. Alexander to day, he informs me that Mr. Chappell's family are all well. — As Mr. Alexander has no employment or labour, I think of giving him the 2d clerkship of the Boat —

— partly on account of his wife, who must have support from some source, and think he will answer our purpose very well, as we shall have to carry a second clerk in the New Orleans trade. In conversation with Mr A. I told him I would allow him, what I thought he was worth to me, so it will stand him in hand to make himself as useful as possible. — The Steamers "Mr Paris" and "Kentuck" were snagged lately on their downward passage between this and the mouth of the Ohio, several lives were lost by the sinking of the "Kentuck"

My Dear, I feel very sorry to depress your feelings, (which I know to be very good,) by my absence from you, I feel sensible that you are deprived the society of one, who seems near and dear to you. — But with my prospects I soon hope to cheer you up, and fully restore you, both in mind and feelings, to your natural vigour. — I will write you as usual until I shall hear from, the last will as you know as near as I can judge, what time you may look for me,

My best respects to all the family. And my dear to conclude with, please accept the best love, and sweetest kiss, of your Affectionate Husband,

C. Gardner Pierce

Our dear Brother Charles, arrived here from N. Orleans, last evening. his health is very good.— he thinks of waiting here until I am ready to travel for Cincinnati & accompany me home. he has concluded to go into business at— N. Orleans.

C. G. P—

Louisville Monday
afternoon Nov 8th 1841.

My Dear Wife,

We arrived here about 12. O'Clock, to day, We were aground at the Grafs Flats 18 Miles above this place about 4 hours, which was the cause of arriving here at so late an hour,

The "Nonpareil" will not leave here until tomorrow, so I must content myself to conform to her movements, as there is no boat here for St. Louis but her, Capt. Ackerman has his lady on board and appears to be in no great hurry —

We had a long passage down, which was rather tedious, otherwise I feel very well, as my health is first rate, — I have not rec'd any definite news here respecting the "Goddys" but hope I may meet her at Cairo,

I have written in haste & must close, as the "Monsoon" is just ready to leave, by which conveyance I send this letter,

May this find you fast recovering is the sincere wish of your affectionate Husband

C. G. Pearce

P.S. Dont forget to give my love to our little "Daughter" & to the balance of the Family.

C. G. P.

Mrs. J. Ann Pearce,
Main Street
Cincinnati, O.

Postmaster of
Mr. Phillips

S. B. "Goddess of Liberty" Nov. 22/41

My Dear Wife,

We are at this time and-
=-ending on our downward passage about
250 Miles above Vicksburg, Miss. We have
a very fair trip, and thus far have had
no accident happen us, — I write at this
time with the view of having this at
Vicksburg, to be put on board the first
Steam Bound for Cincinnati, thinking it
may reach you sooner, than the letter
will, which I shall write you at N. Orleans,

I am in hops of reciving a letter
from you on my arrival at New Orleans,
as I am very anxious to hear from you,
In strict accordance with our worthy Cousins
manner of life, in faithfully fulfilling all
promises, I look forward with confidence in
having my desire gratified —

Charles and Egbert are both on board,
and in good health, bound for the goodly city of
N. O. which is about to become their residence, May
health, happiness, and prosperity attend all their
movements in business, And above all, may the
wise "Ruler of the Universe" so direct their steps.

– in life, that they may exclaim when they are called hence to depart, it is well for us. –

In my last letter, which I sent you by Capt. Monfort, I did not say any thing about who to direct my letters, You will therefore address a letter to me at St. Louis on receipt of this, if you have not previously done so, And also write me at N. Orleans via Baltimore, So that I may hear from you at N.O. next trip. – I will write you often, and hope you will be as punctual, as domestic affairs will allow. –

I must make you acquainted with an occurance, which took precedence about 9 o'Clock last Evening, When I term the "Goddess" first born, This was no less than a Lady passenger on board, bound for N. Orleans by the name of Mrs. McNemar who presented her Husband with a fine Son, which very readily received the name of Cupid, as it happened to be born in the State Room having that name, It was exceedingly regretted among the passengers (who had their own sport) that it was not a Daughter, So that they might name it after the "Goddess", The lady I understand is very comfortable & I presume will soon be about again, This will no doubt entitle the "Goddess" to a puff in the N.O. papers, If so, Cousin Jane may look out for particulars, as I calculate to send her a package –

from New Orleans. —

To Mother, I spoke to Egbert about his bill at Mr Chapman's, he wanted some of the items in the bill, and that Mr C. had passed it to you for collection, — he wrote him to forward his demand to Mr Adams & if correct he would pay it, —

Charles and Egbert send their best respects, May this find you all injoying good helth, is my sincere wish, as for myself my health continues very good. —

I will come to a close, by sending the affections of a Husband and Father, to you & our [redacted] daughter, and my love to the family. —

From your affectionate Husband

C. Gardner Peare

Scioto Valley

Mrs. J. Ann Pearce,
care of N. W. Thomas Esq.
Cincinnati, O.

New Orleans Nov 27th 41

My Dear Wife,

We arrived here yesterday all well, had a very pleasant trip down, We have nearly discharged our Cargo and now ready to receive up freights, we find but little freight for St. Louis, or Cincinnati, but I have concluded to put up for St. Louis, & in case I do not get a full freight. I shall purchase Sugar Salt &c. on my own account, to make out balance of Cargo, — I think we will be able to leave here about Tuesday the 30th inst. — I shall send this letter by S. B. "Gt. Morgan" which leaves here to day for Louisville, — I have not rec'd any letter from you yet, But I suppose it is in consequence of the failure of the Mail, as no Mail has been rec'd, here for the last four days from the North. —

I send by the same conveyance a package of Newspapers, addressed to Cousin Jane, which I have no doubt will amuse her for a few minutes, — Egbert will return with us to St. Louis & from thence will visit your fair City, so you may look for-

him about the 15 or 20th of next month,
as near as I can now judge, —

On our trip down about 18 Miles
below Natchez, one of our Engines by the
name of Smith, fell overboard & was drowned
he was on watch at the time, and we
suppose he was either sleeping, or had a
fit at the time, as there was no obstacle
in the way which would cause him to slip
or stumble, Mr. S. as near as we can
ascertain, has a Mother residing at Pittsburgh
where he has formerly made it, his home, —

The family which I wrote you in my
last letter, Mr McNeman left us at Vicksburg,
I thought Mrs. M'N. very smart to be able
to go out in 2 days after the birth of young
"Cupid" but such is the fact, she did do
it. — I am anxiously looking for your letter,
which I may expect every Mail, and shall
look for another at St Louis,

My best love to you, and our little daughter,
and all the family, And fondly hope this may
find you all in the enjoyment of good health,
is the sincere wishes of your,

Affectionate Husband
C. Gardner Pearce

P.S. — I will write you again before I leave the City, which I will either send by S. Boats or Mail, — F. Penn Esq. has just this moment made his appearance on the Boat, he looks well and as usual has on a very fine suit of "Fine goods" (I dont know who has it suffice, Fine, I dont know whether he is doing anything or not, — Give with my young "Capids" sentiments in the future which I remain Cousin J. — am Ardent to be, —

Yours Truly.

C. G. P.

P.S. 2. I have just rec'd your letter, which gives me much pleasure to learn you are so well, It was just handed me by Charles, and I unsealed this letter to make this insertion, I am very thankful to Cousin Jane, for writing — I write again soon —

C. G. P.

Mrs. C. G. Pearce,

care of N. W. Thomas Esq.

Gen. Morgan's Cincinnati

My Dear Husband

I cannot see this letter closed without saying a few words to the dear one, I am gaining my strength as fast as can be and hope shortly to be as well as usual, I have not as yet been out of my room but next week myself and Miss Pearce expect to be Lady's in the Parlor — a few words about our "little Daughter" I often look at her and wish you were here to see how interesting she grows, you would will not know she was the same child, she is as large as a child of 3 or 4 months old, and instead of looking like Eg is the image of her Dear Father we can all of us see the resemblance and all who come in exclaim how much she looks like her Father — Mother and Cousin are both scolding me so I must content myself with these few lines when you write do not forget to [illegible] my eyes so my dear husband good bye —

From your ever affectionate Wife

Jane Ann Pearce

Cincinnati . Nov 27 1841

My Dear Cousin

Your Letter to Ann, your dear Wife, by Mr Monfort, was received on the 25th and perused joyfully for she had been exclaiming for several day, why is it, "I dont get a letter - and why dont Dear write" but when she beheld what she had so anxiously looked for her feelings were quieted and her heart much relieved, She read it over and over again and it was then laid in the drawer to have a daily perusal untill she hears from you again - she feels quite well and thinks if the weather is pleasent of paying Mrs Evens, a visit next week - as she has been very ill, dangerously so, since you left but is now much better - and wishes to see Ann and the Babe and as the Doctress considered Ann's health sufficiently improved to dispense with her services - she has discontinued her daily visits - Ann feels so independent, that she is going to enjoy her liberty in a prudent manner, by visiting her Friends - -

you wish me to leave the little "Goddess" to talk she ~~can talk a language that cannot be understood~~ she is somewhat talkative, and it matters not to her whether it is night or day, wherever she is disposed, we must listen to her eloquence - her beautiful black hair has not yett begun to curl, but is as straight as ever; and is turning light colored, her eyes, is most as large as her Mothers, the first 2 weeks of her existence, she resembled Egbert so much, that all that saw her observed the striking resemblance, since then the expression of

her face has changed - and she now has an innocent and artless look just like her Father, and she has a pair of as bright eyes as ever peeped in Cincinnatti - To say all I could say of her would fill a volume - I will only add she bids fair to be a great Western - By the by, you may tell Egbert the great Western has set sail with Eugette Neville or in other words was married last Tuesday evening, and poor Phebe Gilmore imagined herself his bride - and for a week paraded the streets in white Satin in a complete bridal attire - it is Mournfull indeed to see a mind of so high an order, so completely wrecked ——

And now would you not like to hear something respecting the Temperance meetings - they are still held nightly and crowded to overflowing, and each night they are crowned with great I may say with glorious success, A few nights since Mr Platt Evens - and his son George went forward - and pledged themselves as Gintlemen that they would adhere to the pledge -

Ann is going to write a few words to you - and I expect you will think those few words, words more than my 2 letters if you do, tell it not in Cincinnatti - I wrote to you as directed by New Orleans, and hope you received it ——

The Family are well, and in much sincerity desire to be remembered to you - particularly the little goddess who sends very special word -

And now may the "goddess of Liberty," safely bear you to every point you may have in view - is the sincere wish of your cousin

Jane Maria Fuller

P.S. I suppose I must now bid you Good Bye, as Ann will not let me write again - J. M. F.

Answ.d Dec.r 11th 1841

Capt C. G. Pearce
St Louis
Mo

Publishers
Mr. Stickney

Steam Boat "Goddess of Liberty"
December 8th 1841

My dear Wife,

We are at this time, on our upward passage 60 Miles below Cairo, at which point we will arrive during the Night, — We have made a very fair trip so far, as to time, being very heavily laden when we left New Orleans, I purchased a part of the Cargo which we have on board, by so doing, it gave us quick dispatch, — I wrote you just before leaving N.O. which letter I put on board of the "Queen of the West." She is behind us, but will be up soon, —

I shall leave at Cairo, to be shipped on the "Queen" or the first Boat bound for Cincinnati, 1 Box, One Barrel Oysters, half Bbl. Fruit containing Pine Apples, Oranges & Some old cloths belonging to Egbert, These are Marked with your address, care N. W. Thomas Esq. — I Also send Mr. Thomas, One Bbl. Oysters, & Mr Lawrance & Mr Avery one Bbl. each, — The Oysters are very fine now & I think will be very good when you recive them, — I had fine times eating Oysters in N.O. and wished you were with me, to help enjoy the same, but as you were not, I shall send you some, hoping you may have fine times eating them at home, — Until this moment I had forgotten Mrs. Draper, if I had thought of her in daytime, I would have put her up a — Bbl. Oysters &c. &c. have plenty on board unbeknown.

– I will think of Mrs. D. when the Boat comes to Cincinnati, which may be our last trip from N.O. But I cannot make any certain promise,

The fruit which I send you, you may dispose of among your friends, as you like, should you have any more than you want for yourselves, and Mr Thomas come, as he will have the trouble of sending your things to you, –

Egbert is on the Boat, and will go on with us to St Louis, he will probably remain a few days, and then bend for your fair City of Cincinnati, I will write you again, when he leaves us at St. Louis, to come home, In the Keg of fruit you will find several late N.O. papers which I put in for our returned Cousin J. –

I often think of you, and our little dear, and hope soon to see you, May this find you, all enjoying good health, is my sincere wishes, – My health still remains very good,

Tell Mother she must not scold, if the Oysters should make a little mess, –

My best love to you all,

From your Affectionate Husband

C. Gardner Pearce

Mrs. C. G. Pearce,

care of N. W. Thomas Esq.

Cincinnati, O.

St. Louis Dec. 11th 1841

My Dear Wife,

Yours, and Cousin's letter of the 27th ult. came to hand this evening, I am very happy to hear from you, and to learn that you are getting along so well,

We arrived here this morning very early, but I did not receive your letter, until this evening, I suppose Mrs. Stickney had so much to attend to, that she did not think of so small a thing as a letter, Previous to receiving your epistle, I had looked every where I thought possible to obtain one, but in vain, At last, before I had dispaired thinking you had not forgotten me, I received it from Mr. Stickney, saying that Mrs. S. had forgotten it, until the present time, I have given it several perusals, and now seat myself to answer it, and give you the earliest information of my arrival in this City, —

I must again say, as in one of my past letters to you, that I am under many obligations to our worthy and esteemed Cousin, for the trouble which she has taken in writing to me, during your late confinement — And as it —

— thankful to receive a few lines from you, stating that you, and our little daughter are getting along so well, —

I wrote you from Cairo, and sent you a Bill. of Ogdens & one half bbl. fruit which you will probably recive before this comes to hand, from Cairo our passage was tolerable fair to this place, except one very stormy night, — We had a very pleasant day here for passage, being almost as warm as summer, the larger portion of our Cargo is discharged, and we and up for New Orleans again, freights appear very plenty for below & we will not find any difficulty in loading quick, and at good prices, — If the weather continues good for passage, we will be ready to leave here on Tuesday or Wednesday next, — I can not determine until I return to N. Orleans whether I shall return here, or come to Cincinnati it will depend some on the price of freights to each port. — I often think of you, and our little one, and am very anxious to see you. I shall therefore endeavor to come and see you as soon as I can, and not materially interfere with the interest, or welfare of the Goodsp. —

Mr. Chas. Roe formerly of the house of E. Lawrence & Co. Cincinnati, is in the City, and has taken passage on the "Goddard" for New Orleans, where he expects to reside during the winter,

Egbert will depart for the "Lawn City" in 3 or 4 days, so you may look for him about the 20th inst, and another letter from me when he comes, I shall send this by mail, so that you may get it as soon as possible, —

Please have my shirts made, so they may be in readiness for me when I come, And to keep away Weird hours pleasantly, after thinking of me, as I know you will not forget me, Take good care of our little daughter, learn her to talk, be good, lay in her Crib without rocking & keep her hair black and let it go to curling, —

Give my love to Mother & tell her I am glad to hear that the Temperance cause is progressing so well in your City, —

Please write me at St Louis & New Orleans in about One week after the receipt of this,

My best love to you all, & a kiss each, for you and our little Dear, — Your sincere and Affectionate Husband

C. Gardner Pearce

Mr. Chappell's family I believe are all well. I have not seen any of them except Alexander, who is on the Boat. Mr. Chesley must enjoy himself very well as he is up in the [illegible] where his Wife is leaving many all b[illegible] who blames them,

St. Louis Dec. 15th 1841

My Dear Wife,

I am very happy to inform you, that your kind letter of the 5th & 8th inst. came to hand last evening, Which afforded me great happiness in perusinging it, I am also pleased to learn, that you are all so well, and hope you will enjoy yourself by visiting your friends, and amusing yourself with our "little Daughter" Who, by the manner in which you discribe her, being so fat, good, beautiful & fascinating in her ways. I certainly need to be proud of her, as you cannot be so much mistaken, as to be in any way deceived in an important affair like this. —

I have not had time to call up and see Mr. Chappell's family & dont know that I will call on them this trip, Therefore I cannot say any thing to Mary about her birth day, Which is past. — But as this is your birth day I have not forgotten it, I will celebrate it as well as I can, but not as happily as I might if I could enjoy your good society, However I hope you will enjoy yourself among your —

- friends at home, on this occasion, and be assured that your absent friend is always with you in feelings, if not in person,
I will tell you how old I think you are when I see you, since you have become a Mother, I dare not put your age down upon paper without seeing you, — I hope whoever soon to see you, and to find you as chirpie and as blooming as ever, — I am sorry that you were so much disappointed in your dream, it may come to pass some time within two months from this time, that you may awake in the morning and find me, —

We have our Cargo all ingaged and expect to leave this evening for New Orleans, I send this by Egbert, and enclose to you Fifty Dollars, I expect Egbert will remain on the Boat until we get down to Cairo, and from thence he will take the first Boat bound for Cincinnati, — I will write a few lines on what will probably most interest you, which is relative to coming home, I can only say that I cannot make up my mind until I arrive in New Orleans; and ascertain when I can do best, if I can do as well to come to Cincinnati, And

can learn that there is sufficient water in the Ohio, I will come, But as all these objections are in the way, you must not look for me, as it is uncertain when I will come, and I dont want you to be in any suspense about me. — I am pleased that you are making calculations on having fine times, in going to New Orleans and back this Winter, I hope we may enjoy it, And have no doubt, if we are blessed with health, but what we will. — As for Cousin Jane' reminding me that Christmas is coming I can readily suppose what she is aiming at But must say to her, that she has had some very good kids, And as I may infer willfulness on her part, that she was not up and a doing, therefore it gives me a chance for litigation before this important affair can be consumed, —

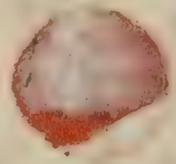
I will write you again the first opportunity as usual, and hope to find a letter from you on my arrival in N.O. — I will close by informing you that my health is good, and fondly hope this may find you all the same. — I send the affections of a Husband & Father, and my love to all,

From Your Sincere and affectionate Husband

C. Gardner Pearce.

Dear 14th this morning we arrived at Cairo with a very fair trip, I have nothing in particular to write more than what this letter contains written, My love to you all

C.G. Pierce



Miss J. Ann Pierce,
Richmond
Mississippi
U.S.

Steam Boat "Goddess of Liberty"
December 21st 1841

My Dear Wife,

We are all well on board, and are getting along finely, at this time, we are about 40 Miles above Vicksburg on our downward Passage, — I have been perusing all my old Letters from you, which affords me considerable gratification, While absent from the Wife I dearly love, And as I very well know, you are always anxious to hear from me, I write you at this time with the view of having the same at Vicksburg to be put on board the first Boat bound for Cincinnati, — We have a very full freight down, consisting of different Kinds of freight, and live Stock, say upwards of 100 Head Cattle, 150 Hogs, Chickens. Turkeys, Geese &c. &c, Making quite an assorted Cargo, as well as a good one,

You may say to Elbert, that the receipts of our present trip, will be about the same as our last, We have taken on considerable Stock since he parted with us at Cairo, —

I hope this letter may be speedily conveyed to you, and find you all in good health ~~&c~~ is my sincere wish, —

You said so much about our little Daughter in your last, that I often think of her, as well as yourself, And wish that I could see you, but as I cannot, I will cherish a Husbands and Fathers feelings for you. — I hope you may have pleasant times in the "Queen City" during the Holidays, Enjoying yourselves by going to Church, eating "Mince Pie" agreeable to Strictly Temperance principles, and by being engaged in cares of our little daughter, Who I Sincerely hope may be a blessing to us, and an ornament to Society, as she may grow up to riper years.

I am very desirous of receiving a letter from you, on my arrival at N. Orleans or before leaving there, whether I do or not, I will write you as usual, & let you know what I am doing, & which way I expect to proceed with the Boat. —

My love to you, and our little daughter, and all the family —

from Your Affectionate Husband

C. Gardner Pearce

12 ½

STEAM

CINCINNATI
OCT
21
O.

Mrs C. G. Pearce,
care of N. W. Thomas Esq.
Cincinnati, O.

Cincinnati Dec 24th 1841

My Dear Husband

I received yours of the 15th & the 22d by Egbert which as usual was perused with great interest and with feelings of gratitude that we are blessed with health – as for myself I never enjoyed better health – my friends all remark how much better I look since my confinement – my appetite is very great but that is easily accounted for as one friend Louisa says I have another to nourish who is none other than our dear interesting "little Daughter" I am so anxious for you to see her, I am afraid if you do not come soon we shall not be able to teach her who you are – she begins to take notice of things and thinks nothing of laughing aloud so that we can hear her in any part of the room – she occupies much of Mothers and my time, Mother is of great assistance to me – she takes care of her little grand-daughter whilst I attend to my sewing and other matters – she is extravagantly fond of the little pet and who would not be who is at all connected with her – Egbert says he never saw such a child to keep her eyes fixed on an object – he thinks she is wonderful and is worried if she cries and thinks she must be sick – are you tired of hearing so much about one thing – well I have not yet

finished — Ann Maria intends hanging up her stocking
to night being Christmas Eve, she has given due notice
to old St Nicholas and expects to wake up in the
morning and find her stocking filled — I must be in
haste as it is almost night and must have this letter in
the Post Office before dark — I am interrupted the babe has
awoke and she is crying for her "Mother" — — — — — — — —

I once more resume my seat — tomorrow is Christmas
and we are busy making cake and mince pies — do you
think you will be forgotten? no, but I wish much that you
were here to enjoy them with us — 6 years ago I had your good
society — but alas what changes — now many miles separate us —
I hope to see you this trip and if I do not I shall be disappoint
-ed but will strive to bear it — — — — — I shall be careful
hereafter how I send letters by married ladies particularly
those who have been separated from their husbands — Cousin
says there is no creeping out of this marriage affair so prepare
yourself to pay all debts — she has been out this afternoon
and bespoke a white bonnet there is no knowing but what
it may be the bridal one — Mrs Draper's sister Mrs Jones was
confined yesterday 2 months sooner than the expected time —
the babe lived only a few hours and was buried this morning
for a week past it has rained continually until to day which
has set in cold freezing weather — I went to Church last Sabbath
for the first and heard Mr Hamline which I enjoyed much
I received the oysters and fruit also the money by Egbert — —
I shall be obliged to conclude it is dark, and the babe wants my
attention — dear husband you must look over all mistakes as I have to write
in haste and improve every moment — the family send much
love to you — adieu dear husband hoping to see you very soon — a kiss from your
little daughter from your affectionate Wife J. A Reuea

Christmas morning. --- Egbert persuaded me to send my letter by L. B. Borcas which leaves to day. last night we had a delightful serenade which was heavenly – it was Christmas hymns sung by 4 gentlemen in the yard under my window, they come through Mr Goat's ol but who they were we connot imagine – Daughter remembered last night – this morning she found a little basket filled with sugar-plums pined to her stocking for her namesake cousin Jane Maria – it is a lovely day, all in animation and cheerfulness and what a happy, happy day it would be to me if you were here – our quarterly meeting commences this morning, and if I can leave home I intend going to church, and while you are ploughing the deep – where-ever I may be, at home or abroad, you will be in my thoughts – –

Your sincere and affectionate Wife

Jane Hunt Scott

Dec. Jan 9 1854

Capt C. G. Pearce

St Louis

Care of McGunnegle & Way Mo,

New Orleans Dec 30. 1841—

My Dear Wife,

I take up my pen to write you a few lines, informing you that I am in good health, which is all the good news I can send you, I have not rec'd any letter from you, since I arrived here, but hope I may before I leave, —

It is one week to day since we landed here, and our Cargo still lies on the Levee, the weather is so very bad that the consignees cannot receive it, this is now the fifth day that it has rained here constantly, so that but little outdoors busines can be done, Freights are very scarce for St. Louis & the weather so bad, that I expect to have ~~for~~ in the course of 2 or 3 days with but little, Steamboating at this time, looks rather gloomy, and I feel equally as much so, I feel my homesick at this time, more than I ever did before, I would give almost any thing I have, to see you, if I could be placed home for a little while, it would afford me much pleasure, But as it is impossible to realize such a gratification at present, I must forbear ~~for~~ a little while longer, —

I wrote you by the "Queen of the West" and sent you one Bbl. Oysters, care of Mr Hartwell, which I hope you will receive in good order I would send you some Fruit, but fear it would not keep, unless it was kept open which I could not get any one to do, the fruit which I sent you from Cairo was kept open to that place. —

I shall send this letter by the "This Bill" which is about ready to leave, I also send a package of Newspapers addressed to you, which are intended for Cousin Jane to peruse, as well as yourself, I send them to you, thinking they will be more likely to be sent up, as I directed them to the care of Mr Hartwell. —

Charles is well, and send his best respects, he said yesterday, he was rather lonesome, & wished some of you were down here,

I dont want you to think that I have forgotten our little daughter, for I think of her very often when I am awake, as well as you, my dear Wife,

I must close by sending my best love to you ~~you~~, and our little daughter & all the family.

Yours Your affectionate Husband

C. Gardner Peairs

4

Mrs. C. G. Pearce,

care of G. H. Hartwell Esq.

"Ohio Belle" Cincinnati, O.

St. Louis January 12th 1842.

My Dear Wife,

Capt. W. Fuller arrived here this morning on the Steamer "Pompaie" and informed me that you were all well, when he left Cincinnati, this information I do assure you, was very gratifying to me, According to promise I take up my pen to let you hear from me again, which always affords me great pleasure to do so,

I have nearly all my freight on board and will depart for New Orleans tomorrow morning at 10. O'Clock A.M. We have at this time 7 feet water in the Channel between here and Cairo, below that, we have plenty. The weather has been remarkably pleasant for several days past, more like Spring than January, which is very favourable for us. I will send this letter by Capt. F. who expects to leave in a day or two,

On my arrival in N. Orleans, I am in hopes of receiving a letter from you, whether I do or not, I will write you again, and let you know which route I expect to take next. I expect you are anxious to hear me

return and see you, and our little darling Ann Maria, And I feel equally as much so, and hope soon to see you, as I am enjoying myself with the idea, that our meeting will be a happy hour for us both, —

You will please write me again, and direct to this place as usual, so that I may hear from you, in the event, I should return here again. — Our City Bells had just been Tolling to give the alarm of fire, I am not able to state where the Fire was, or what was distroyed by it, but I think it was not any serious, — Mrs. Alexander and Mrs. Stuckney took a pleasure excursion on the "Goddess" to Allow Creek, Mrs. A looks fleshy for her, and appears to be in better health than I ever saw her before, (That is all at present,) You will please recollect that the first day of February is my birth day, I am Thirty years old, I should like to be with you on that day, But as I cannot have my wish on this occasion, I hope you will celebrate the day with me, enough to eat a good mince pie, by your fireside, if you should be so fortunate as to have one left. — These Thirty years, though nearly half the space of time allotted a mans age, Have been passed away and perhaps —

with too little consideration and thankfulness on my part, May the balance of my years be long and happy, with the Wife of my affections, And through the aid of my God, who Rules and Governs all things, May I be so inclined as to serve him better than I ever have done before, —

I have rec'd 2 letters from Egbert since he left me, I understood by Mrs. H. that he had left Cincinnati for the Wabash Country, and his proposed tour, Say to Mother that the Washington Temperance Society is flourishing both in this City, and in Alton, And if rumor speaks truth, I believe every where, — To Cousin Jane, I hope she is well, if she has any Beau I hope it may be the right one, And to Conclude think if she can get plenty of Newspapers to read, will do well enough, So good Night, for it is now nearly 10. — Mrs. Alexander wishes to be remembered to you, Mr. Chappell's family I believe are all well, I have not called on them but once since I left Cincinnati. — Now to finally conclude, I will send you all the love I am capable of, as a family fidelity and remembrance, And hope soon to see you all, is the Sincere wishes of your Affectionate Husband,

C. Gardner Peace

Mrs. C. G. Peace,

Cincinnati,

O,

Politeness of

Capt. Fuller

Mills Point Ky. Jan. 14. 1842

My Dear Wife,

I am happy to hear from you again, although verbally, we met Egbert this morning at Cairo, he informs me that you and all is good health, which was very gratifying for me to hear, and our little "Daughter" he says cannot be beat, she begins to run about, how cunning she must appear, — The letter which was sent me by yourself + Egbert have been carried on to New Orleans, they were sent by the Str. "Diamond", and to have been left at Cairo, she probably passed that point in the night, or forgot to leave them, — Charley will return to Cincinnati on the first boat we meet bound for that port, and Egbert will supply his vacancy on the "Goddess". — We had quite a cold time coming out of the Upper Miss. River, it being very full of Ice, although we had good luck, taking the stage of navigation into consideration, — We will make a very fair trip down, after picking up all the little lots offering, we are taking in Tobacco, Stock &c, at this point, and no doubt will get a full Cargo, although we had to come down the L. Mississippi, with about two thirds of our usual load, —

It is possible that I may put up for Cincinnati, from N. Orleans, but will have to be governed by circumstances as heretofore, after arriving in port, and ascertaining what can be done, — Egbert says you would all be very glad to see me, which I had not the least doubt of, And on my part, I feel equally anxious to see you, —

Whatever I conclude to do in New Orleans, I will write you, soon after my arrival,

Please write me, on receipt of this, and direct to the care of W. Falls Cairo, Ills, if you write soon + get Charley to put it on some boat, it will be in time to meet me, which will be quite a consideration, as I do not know which time I may be bound up, — I send to you by Charley two Books, talking for the "Mormon" Doctrine, one of which is called the book of Mormon, and the other the voice of warning, I do not send you these to have you think that I have any faith in them, not that I wish you to know, But merely to let you know that there is such a belief existing by thousands, at this enlightened age of the world,

Charley has made up his mind to bother "Hale" about his belief in the "Mormon faith," should he hold out any such ideas to you, you may know that he is only doing it for a joke, or argument sake, —

I have not much time to write further, but cannot close without saying something to you all, to yourself and our little daughter I feel as usual towards you, and but little of my time passes while I am awake, but what I am thinking of you, and your future, as well as present welfare, how anxious I am to see you, would be out of my power to discribe, but will only say, that I rest with the belief of seeing you soon, and hope that this epistle may soon come to hand, and find you all in good health, which, thro' the assistance of Divine Power is my happy portion at this time. to [redacted] Cousin, and Aunty, May they all be in the enjoyment of health, and find plenty of entertainment in the way of going to Church, Lectures &c. to pass of the winter, And a word of Caution, for them not to Spoil my "little darling". —

My best love to all the family, and please accept the same for yourself and our little "Ann Maria" with kisses enough to last you, until I return. —

From Your Affectionate Husband

C. Gardner Lance

" " "

Mrs. C. G. Pearce,

Politeness of
C. C. Sackett Esq,

Cincinnati,
O.

Cincinnati January. 20th 1842

My Dear Husband

Once more I seat myself to answer yours of the 9th and 12th. I was much pleased to learn by them that you were in better spirits than when you last wrote from N Orleans – when I received that epistle I came to the conclusion that you must be somewhat homesick and how much I wished I could have been with you to give you all the comfort in my power, I feel at this time that there is not any thing on earth would afford me so much happiness if I could see you, indeed my dear husband I think I cannot bear the separation much longer, I have never thought we could be separated so long a time and if it were not for our dear daughter I am confident I could not have borne it with as much fortitude as I have, my time is almost altogether taken up with her therefore I have not the same time to reflect and become low spirited – it will be in vain for me to attempt a description of this little comforter I speak not entirely from interested feelings but she is the admiration and surprise of all who see her, a more fleshy little creature I never saw, she is as large as Willy Chapman was at 6 months & and as cunning and interesting as she is fat, I know you will be greatly surprised when

you see her, she was not very well one day last week we thought she was threatened with the croup and sent for Dr Woodward, he expressed his astonishment at seeing such a fine healthy looking child and added much more which I will repeat when we meet. I often talk to her about her Father and show her your portrait which she appears to understand and replies after a fashion of her own; come and see this little Queen for such we style her - - - - With painful feelings I inform you that our city has again been disgraced by a mob concerning the Banks, a report was in circulation that the Cincinnati Bank had failed, about 4 o'clock in the morning the excited multitude commenced their work of destruction once destroyed every thing they could get hold of even to the books and papers - they then proceeded to the next building which was the Miami Exporting company, by this time a dozen of the Military arrived and placed themselves in front of the Bank and such a scene as followed, the mob were so excited that they threw any thing in their reach at them - the Military proceeded around 3d street to the Mayor's office to receive further orders, they were [illegible] on every side as to be obliged to fire their guns wounding several in the mob - you remember Mr Thomas is President of this bank, we felt much interested for him as they threatened to kill him, it was feared his house would be mobbed at night, his friends advised him to leave the city with his family which he did, he had a strong guard around his property but there was no disturbance a [illegible]

amount of money was taken from the vaults, most of the robbers are in jail and I suppose will meet with severe punishment. The officers are censured for not being more active in quelling the mob which in the beginning could easily have been done. As regards your birthday you may be assured I shall not forget it, and although our last mince pie was eaten yesterday we will have a new supply; it is also Ann Maria's monthly birth-day which we will celebrate in remembrance of Father and Daughter – the best wishes of your Wife are that the remainder of your years may be long and happy with her who is to be your companion through life, that you may be much blessed and live in the enjoyment of that Religion which is the source of all happiness – – – – –

I entertain a hope that you will be here this trip from N.B. it is said that "Hope deferred sickneth the heart" so if you should not come, be not surprised if I am more than disappointed – I ask not for wealth or fashion but give me a "cot beside the hill" and the Husband who is near my heart and then I will be happy, I do not want you to think I am murmuring but this separation is painful to me for about a week the weather has been more like spring than winter, I have not been able to enjoy it as I have suffered with the face-ache most of that time, I took cold in my teeth after they were plugged, it appears as though Cousin caught the disease from me she has suffered much pain but is getting better. The Temperance cause is going on finely, Mother has not an opportunity to attend the meetings but takes great interest in the cause, she passes her time in sitting – – – for the Lodge, I write to Delos

among the poor and relieving the distressed and afflicted. Mr. Hamilton formerly Maria Ware presented her husband with a young daughter on New Years. Mr. Chapman has a little daughter she resembles Willy. I believe they call her Mary Eliza — Egbert left about 2 weeks ago Thursday I could not deliver your message, we have not heard from Charles for — — time. —

Capt. C. F. Ogden
Care of Chas Symonds & Co St. Louis
Mo

42

I forgot one thing relating to dear Maria, we think she is left-handed as she uses that hand altogether, we are endeavoring to break her of it — to day it is quite cold and clear — each one of the family send their love — a kiss from the little daughter and the most ardent love from

Affectionate and devoted Wife & Mother

New Orleans Jan 22d. 1842.

My dear Wife,

The "Monzahita" is just ready to haul & I take up my pen to let you know that we arrived on yesterday & all well, And what will probably be more pleasing to you to know that I am up for Cincinnati — I believed I could do better to go to St. Louis. but I am so anxious to see you, & our little daughter, that I have resolved to come at all hazards, I rec'd your letter which you sent by S.B. "Queen of the West" & the package containing 3 shirts & our little Daughters profile, which. I think looks like her Mother, particularly her chin, I shall be better able to judge, when it is altogether a good likeness or not, when I see her, — Charles is well & sends his best respects to all the family — We are admitted to haul for Cincinnati on Monday but will not leave I think before Wednesday the 27th inst. So you may look for me about the 6 or 7th of next month should we not have any bad luck, or be detained by Ice — I will probably write again by the S.B. Henry Clay which will leave here on Monday, and let you know how I am progressing as to

getting a Cincinnati knight. at present it is my peace. — I send a package of papers for Cousin Jane's gratification.

May I get a good trip, and a speedy one, to Cincinnati when I can see my dear Wife is all I can ask at present to make me a happy man. —

My best love to you, and ano kiss Ann Maria, & all the family. —

From your loving affectionate Husband

G. Gardner Peirce

Mrs. C. G. Pearce,
care of G. H. Hartwell Esq
"Monongahela" Cincinnati O.

New Orleans Sunday Evening
January 23. 1842

My Dear Wife,

I feel quite happy this evening, to know the time has so near arrived, when I expect to leave for the "Queen City", Where I expect to find my dear Wife and babe enjoying good health, And ready to welcome my return. — I think we will leave here on Wednesday the 27th inst, And if we should have a fair trip, arrive in Cincinnati about the 6 or 7th Feby, as I stated in my last letter by the S. B. "Monongahela" — I wrote you from Vicksburg on my downward passage, which you probably see, by due course of Steam Boat. —

You may make up your Mouth for something good in the fruit line, as I will endeavor to bring you up a little of all Kinds, And a few Oysters to eat with it. —

Now I will write what I forgot in my last, and that is, for you to be ready to return to New Orleans with me, This visit to the great City of the South, has been considerable time in contemplation, And I want to fulfil my promise which I made some time ago, by having all the family come down with us. Mother must try to make up her mind, to as to be all ready, Because

I shall be very much disappointed if she dont go, And it may not be as convenient again for some time, As for Cousin Jane I suppose she still remains a Spinster, Thereforn it is to be presumed that she can leave home at any Time, — And now, whilst I am reminding you of our contemplated visit, I will add further, that you may have some good Temperance Mince pies made they would be a very great treat to me, as I have not had any, since I eat them at home, —

I am very much pleased to learn that Egbert has signed the Temperance Pledge for his own good, And equally as much so, for the gratification and consolation it affords Mother, Egbert has written Charles on the subject he thinks it is very well, but dont say any thing about signing himself, —

I will send this letter by the "Henry Clay" she leaves here tomorrow (Monday,) and will probably beat us, we about 4 days, as we have considerable of our load to take in on the Coast about 70 Miles above the City, —

I cannot find words to discribe my anxiety to see you, and our little daughter, Therefore I will not attempt it, But hope soon to see you, when I trust my actions to prove this fact, will speak louder than words, —

since we arrived here, the weather has been clear and beautiful, and nearly as warm as Summer, this evening, it has clouded over and looks very much like rain. — I have been looking at Ann Maria's profile, which you had the kindness to send me, it affords me considerable satisfaction, but I expect to be more pleased when I see the little darling herself. You mention in your letter about adding the Gardner to her name, which I have no objections to, but as I am coming up soon, it might as well remain as it is, when I arrive I will advise with you,

A word to Cousin, She seems to think I [redacted] rather foolish in getting with, her was getting Married, I stood before my own shadow with my eyes wide open, in regard to this matter, I will sympathize with her, as I consider her the greatest looser, she is loosing what she is worthy of, the Society of a good husband, while I am only loosing a few Dollars, Poor Gill,

Remember my love to all the Family, and please accept the same for yourself and a kiss for our sweet babe,

From your Loving and Affectionate Husband,

C. Gardner Pearce,

Mrs. C. G. Pearce,

care of G. H. Hartwell Esq.

"Henry Clay." Cincinnati. O.

Louisville March 16/42

My Dear Wife,

I have only time to write a few lines, informing you that we arrived here This Morning about 3 o'clock in safety, and will leave for St. Louis about Eleven to day — We have added considerable to our load at this place which will make us out a very fair trip for these Hard times

My love to all and a kiss for Ann Maria, I will write you from St. Louis Should I proceed further than that point.

Your Affectionate Husband

C. Gardner Pierce

CINNATI
O.

STEAM 12½

Mrs. C. G. Peace
care G. H. Hartwell Esq
Pike

Cincinnati,
O.

Louisville Mch 31st 1842.

My dear Wife,

We arrived here this morning about daylight in safety, and are getting some addition to our trip, which will make out a tolerable fair one, We expect to leave to day, and are in hopes of going over the Falls, if so, it will save $150 which price it costs us to go through the Canal,

My health continues good, and I fondly hope this may find you all enjoying the same blessing. — My love to all the family and a kiss for you, and our intersting little daughter,

From your affectionate Husband

C. G. Pearce

12 L

Mrs. C. G. Pearce,
care Hartwell & Atheam
Cincinnati, O.

Wheeling Va., Thursday
Evening Apl. 14th 1864

My Dear Wife,

I take my pen in hand to inform you, that we are all well, and have had a very safe passage, at this time we are about 10 Miles below Wheeling, and if nothing happens us, will arrive at that Splendid City in about one hour which will be about 10, O'clock. — We will probably remain in Wheeling a short time, and then proceed on our journy towards the fair City of "Smoke and Dust" where our Dear Cousin knows a Gentleman by the name of Smith. — Mother is well, and has enjoyed herself very much since we left home, I have taken utmost enough in her welfare to show her all places of intrest or such as are near to her, The Ladies all seem well pleased, at Marietta we stoped a few minutes & all the passengers together with myself went to see the water brake over the dam in the Muskingum River, which unites with the Ohio at that point. — The weather is very cool and fine for travelling, I have been sorry ever since I left, that you were not along, but I expect you will. we took as much pleasure

at home, Mother frequently speaks of Ann Maria, and says she would like to see the dear Angel, and wonders if any of you will wash me, and keep her sweet and clean whilst she is absent, — Mother & Mrs St John are great Cronys as well as being quite a favourite among all the Ladies, She thinks if she had her Cloths with her, That she would proceed on to New York, as the principal part of the Ladies are bound direct there, which would afford her both Company & protection, — But as she is not prepared for a long journey, she is satisfied to return with the Boat from Pittsburgh and hopes soon to see you & find you all well, —

Mr H. H. has been duping for the last hour and is now about as fine as a French dancing Master & says he is going out to see his Wheeling girl,

I think your way bill for us is about Tuesday evening the 19th inst. if we are not detained longer at Pittsburgh than I now expect, —

My best love to you, and all the family & a kiss for our dear intresting little daughter & tell her I will soon be home,

From your loving & affectionate Husband

C. G. Pearce

1874
Mrs. C. G. Pearce,
care Hartwell & Latham,
Cincinnati, O.

St. Louis. Apl. 25. 1842

My Dear Wife,

We arrived here on the evening of the 23d all well, we had a very quick passage from Louisville to this City.— Business appears to be very dull owing to the great number of Boats in port, at this time there are about six or seven boats up for Pittsburgh, and not Passengers enough to give one a good trip. I shall therefore hold on 2 or 3 days in hopes of doing better, & let the present crowd get out of the way— We have been talking about forming a regular line between St. Louis & Cincinnati to leave every other day, but nothing finally concluded. This arrangement would take five boats & each to make a trip every 10 days, we shall still have this plan under consideration.— I was calculating to write you from Louisville, but as we left that City at about 9 o'clk in the morning I had not time to do so, I send this by the "West Wind" which is now ringing her bell to depart. So I must be in haste & come to a close, My love to you all & a kiss for yourself & our darling babe, Your affectionate Husband

C. Gardner Perry

Mrs. C. G. Pearce
care of Hartwell & Atheam
"West Mind" Cincinnati
O.

Louisville May 11. 1842

My Dear Wife,

We arrived here This morn=ing just at daylight & as usual I was up and enjoyed the morning air, which was very refreshing, after so fine a shower as we had last night. — We are getting consi=derable addition to our number of Passengers here, I think we will have about 100 Cabin passengers, when we leave here to day which will be about 10 o'clock. A.M. —

I will send you by the S. B. Pike a Box of fine Strawberries, care of Mr Hartwell who will take them to you, they are from the Louisville Market,

My love to all & a kiss for yourself & our darling "Ann Maria",

From Your affectionate Husband

C. G. Peace

with One Box Strawberries

Mrs. C. G. Pearce

Care of Mrs Hartwell & Atkeans

Cincinnati O

St. Louis July 14th 1842

My dear Wife,

We arrived here last Evening all well, had a long but very pleasant Passage, we were longer than usual making the trip, in consequence of towing two Keels from Louisville, Capt. Wm Fuller is here & in good health and I expect will be around to Cincinnati in a few days, they have laid the "Raritan" up until business gets better in the Illinois Trade, In the mean time I expect Capt F. intends to make a Gentleman of himself, (i.e.) get Married.

Before I write further I will inform you that my health is first rate, & fondly hope these lines may find you all in the enjoyment of the same,

Now as regards business I can state to you that we had a very fair trip around, but prospects look rather dull at present for us to put up for any place, I have therefore resolved to lay the "Goddess" up for a while, we have made some Money this season & I dont want to run the risk of loosing it, as we have at present funds enough on hand to pay

of our Corr, and then we have no thanks to ask, to any of them, —

I have not fully concluded what I shall do as regards repaint, therefore I will say to you to be all ready for a trip Ultramontane at one hour's notice, for I am quite visionary this morning as to what will be my nearest step, whether it will be business or pleasure I cannot as yet fully decide, But you must not be surprised if you see me in Cinti, within 3 or 4 days after the arrival of this letter, And on the hand you must not be surprised if you should receive a letter from me in 3 or 4 days after this comes to hand, stating that I have made altogether different arrangements from what I have now written, — Should I conclude to remain here & go on with my repairs, I will give you the earliest possible notice, so that you may not be in suspense about my arrival in Cincinnati, — If I come around for the purpose of going East, our select company will consist as follows. — Myself. Dear & Darling Mother & Cousin J. — And the selection of such a number as you may think valuable and of service to you. L. Eglut is well and enjoys himself about as usual. I think he looked [illegible] better if he had something to occupy

his mind, — I had not time to write you from Louisville. —

The S. Boat "Manhattan" by which conveyance I shall send this letter, is ringing her bell to leave, I must therefore close to a close. —

My best love to you dear little darling, Mother & all the family.

From Your sincere & affectionate Husband

C. G.

P. S. — You will try to have every thing in readiness for a journey East, because if I come I shall be in haste, And if I do not you must bear the trouble for the expectation of the anticipated visit. —

Yours.

C. G. P.

St. Louis August 2d. 1842.

My Dear Wife,

I arrived last evening after a long & tedious journey, being about five days coming around. That ask in a little dirty Boat, distant any Lee, however as you may suppose, I stood it as well as any on board, and am well & as fleshy as ever, - And fondly hope this may find you all enjoying an equal blessing. I found Eyhart, and all others belonging to the "Gaddy" in good health. - Mr. Chappell's family are in good health. Alex, as well as Capt. Fallon & his family, I have called on them all since I arrived, but did not tarry many minutes at each place, Mrs. Molly Alexander has a son about 3 weeks old, and is very well, I think I never saw her look better,

I called at Chappells in the evening, but nothing would do, but Alex. must bring the Boy down for me to see. He is a little small delicate fellow, and looks something like his Pa. But as I cannot say any thing in favor of his good looks, I will not say any thing against him, only that

our darling "Ann Maria" will throw him so far in the shade, that he will not shine any for the next Ten Years, This to some might appear like only one side of the question, but as I have no one to oppose me while writing, I have taken the liberty to state what I think, time alone will determine this. —
Capt. Fuller has sold the "Raritan" and expects to go on a new Boat just finishing now called the "Chicago" as Pilot, this boat was built for the Illinois River, but owing to her drawing too much water, they think of running her to Cincinnati, as Capt. F. informed me. — I have just commenced repairs on the "Goddess" but have not concluded how much I shall do to her, however I expect it will take us about two weeks, and then should freight be sufficiently high to warrant us to go to New Orleans. it is quite likely we shall do so, at present freights are plenty, but any low, they are daily advancing in consequence of the Rain raising, 6 feet Water in the River between here and Cairo. — Business is very dull here, for St. Louis, although there seems to be more stir in the way of business, than

any place I was after I left her,
until I returned, — Mr. Capp has been
quite ill with his lameness, but is
getting better, I believe he is now so that
he can walk about. I have not seen
him, I am told he had a very good
attendant while sick. you can suppose
who she was, from that cause or some
other, she looks very much worn out,
and quite thin of flesh,

I will write you frequently and
let you know how I am getting along.
I shall be pleased to hear from you
on receipt of this, and as often as
you can find time to write, — I confess
that I feel very lonely & homesick after
being with you so long, But as I have
a fair share of fortitude, I will endeavor
to console myself,

Remember me to all the family, and
accept my best love for yourself and
our little daughter, as well as a hearty
kiss, I cant write how much I want
to see you, but will come to a close,

From Your affectionate Husband
C. Gardner Peirce

Mrs. S. A. Peirce,

Paid

Mrs. C. G. Pearce,

care of Mrs. Hartwell Atkins

Cincinnati O

Steam Boat Goddess of Liberty
St. Louis, Monday Evening Augt. 15th/42

My dear Wife,

With pleasure I seat myself this evening, to inform you that my health continues good, and fondly hope this may find you all, enjoying the same inestimable blessing, Egbert, and William and his family are all in good health, I was down Town to day, and saw William, he has changed his notion about going on the "Chicago" and expects to go on the "Fort Pitt" she will probably leave her tomorrow, if she does, I will send this letter by William. — Business appeared tolerable brisk on our Levee to day, as there was considerable activity in the way of shipments to New Orleans, Produce begins to arrive freely from the upper Country, And as there are no buyers in this City, it must go to the Southern, or Eastern Markets, — We have commenced painting, and are progressing with our other work, I expect the "Goddess" will shine, when we get painted, and spread down our new Carpet. —

We think some of going on the Dry dock if we do, it will not take us more than one or two days, as we have but little to do, — I learned to day, by the "Victress" and other Boats from the "Queen City," that the Ohio was rising, and a probability of the water remaining at a fair stage, should business appear to offer tolerable fair for the Ohio, when I get through my repairs it is not impossible that I may put up for that section of Country, but it is so uncertain, that you must not flatter yourself at all, with the idea of seeing me Down, although as usual, I should be very much pleased to see you, and how often, and constant, do I think of you, and our little daughter, As I am always on the Boat evenings, and sometimes alone, it gives me time for reflection, and knowledge to appreciate the worth of the one, who I highly Esteem, and dearly love, — I have not visited any since I wrote you, except to call on our new Cousin Mrs. Fuller, therefore I have no new domestic news to inform you about, — Myself and Egbert take our Meals

at the Planters House, and lodge on the Boat, I find the Planters quite as good a house, as any we stopped at, during our late journey East. — The Missouri Mail Phoenix was sold on Saturday last at Sheriff sale, for the sum of only about $15,000, and probably cost something like $40,000 what a sacrifice of property, it is generally understood that she will run between New Orleans and Vicksburg, —

Please write back by William, Should return again soon,

Remember me to all the family, and accept my best love, for yourself, and our little daughter,

From Your fond and affectionate Husband

O. Gardner Pierce.

" "

P.S. dont let Mother & Cousin Jane spoil our dear "Mine Maria" but learn her to talk as fast as they please, Tell her I am coming in the Steamboat, perhaps she will not forget me, C.G.P.

Mrs. C. G. Pearce,
Main Street
Cincinnati

Politeness of
Capt. Fuller.

S. B. Goddard of Liberty St. Louis

Saturday Evening Augt. 10th. 1842

My Dear Wife,

I can inform you that my health continues very good, and fondly hope this few lines may find you all enjoying an equal blessing, I am getting pretty well through with my painting, and almost at a stand to know whether it is not better to let the Boat lay still, Low to run any place, as for Boats I believe at the present time are more than paying expenses, freights are very low at present to New Orleans, and to Cincinnati but little travel, Which way or what I shall do I cannot at present determine, We will get through our repairs next week, and in the mean time I shall determine on something, I am as likely to come to Cinti, with the boat, as to go to N. Orleans, — Mr. Chappell's family, I believe are all well, I saw Mrs. Stickney This evening, as we were bound for the Planters for our Tea, She is well, and looks as a Married Lady should, I. have not seen her before, since I came around, — Egbert is well, and says he is very tired doing nothing, I am in hopes soon to find something for us —

– both to do, – I am very anxious to see you, and our little Daughter, and the balance of the family, sometimes I feel quite lonely when I think of your good Society, during the day I have plenty to see to, and in the evening I content myself on the Boat as well as I can, by writing, reading &c, We generally return to the Boat immediately after tea, – I have been writing a short and hasty sketch of our late tour East, which I will send you in company with this letter, it will probably entertain you a few Minutes, as I have given a few incidents that occured, as well as time, places &c. – The weather is, and has been, most excessively warm, since I returned here, they have had only one or two warm days, and they were in July, Notwithstanding the hot weather, I am about as fleshy, and as well as ever, – Now to my little daughter, tell her she must not forget me, learn her to talk and Walk, and appear as much like a Lady as possible, – I expect you all have your hands full, to take care of her, if I only had her here occasionally, I would be pleased to give you a spell, Mother of course enjoys herself, as she is prime Manager, Cousin and Aunty &c. rank as

deputies, I hope you will not spoil my darling, if you do not you may do what you please. — My dear I cannot write how much I want to see you, I can only say that I am the same as ever, and would be as much pleased to see you, as I ever have been on any former occasion, I hope soon to receive a letter from you, which will afford me some consolation, Tomorrow will be Sunday, and I expect to go to Church, if I do I will think of you, — I have been writing some of my friends since I returned, and shall keep on, until I write them all, Cousin Gi[illegible] has returned from Iowa, he informs me that two of his fathers family are sick with the Chills and Fever, or Iowa visitation, —

The musketoes are getting quite bad I therefore hope you will excuse the shortness of my letter, and I will come to a close,

My best respects to all the family, and my best love, and a kiss each, for yourself and our little daughter, —

From your kind and affectionate Husband

C. Gardner Pearce

With a small Package

Mrs. C. G. Pearce,
care of Mssrs. Hartwell & Richards
Cincinnati, O.

Cincinnati Sept 16th /42

My Dear Husband

As so short a time has elapsed since writing I have not anything very new to write, but having an opportunity and disposition I knew if it was only a few lines it would be acceptable — we are all in the enjoyment of health, I have more head-ache of late than I have had for sometime which I impute to the sudden change of weather being quite cold enough to sit by a comfortable fire day before yesterday Mother and Cousin received an invitation from Mrs Evens to attend an examination in the country where Hattie goes to school, they left about 4 O'clock with the intention of returning that evening, but fond of rusticating did not show themselves until this morning, leaving me and my darling one day and two nights and strange to say I slept in my room alone when upon awaking in the morning thought it scarcely possible I was alone and me such a coward—, I thought of my dear which you may not think is strange, or but little else occupies my thoughts when we are separated I have been in the street but once since you left, having no desire to pay visit but feel home is more pleasant and there I am most happy and contented, my cup would be filled and overflowing if my dear companion could be with me, I will

look on the bright side and hope that ere long my wishes may be realized — — our darling child is very interesting the Prince of the house and our Mother's comfort; we dare not leave her a moment alone — — she is dressed like a boy she keeps very well and I hope no anything may interfere to make her otherwise — — — Cousin reminds me to say something of Mr Copp her sympathy has been much excited for this youth and she has thought a certain young lady might blame us for all damages but I think she is a lady of better sense to attach blame to anyone, we are pleased to hear he is getting well — remember us to the family — I have no more time, William leaves directly tell Egbert to write often to Mother it gives her pleasure love from all the family to dear and Egbert Charles will be home in a week or two — I hope to see you soon — you will perceive my pen is miserable which I owe to not having a husband to mend it — — Farewell with much love and a kiss

Yours sincere and affectionate Wife

J. Ann Pearce

P. S. Mother has just cut this piece from the paper and says give it to Egbert expressive of her feelings for him.

A Mothers Affection.

Ann

P. S. 2d I have just received your package and have only time to sketch over the Letter — you will hear from me soon

Capt C. G. Pearce

St Louis

Mo

Politeness of
Capt Fuller

S. S. "Goddsp" of Liberty to St. Louis
Saturday Evening Sept. 17. 1842.

My Dear Wife,

It is one week this night, since I wrote you last. I would have written you before now, but have been daily looking for a letter from you, for the last part of this week, and am anxiously awaiting its arrival, But am not discouraged, as I very well know, you have not forgotten me, as I have not rec'd. any letter from you up to this time, I thought I would write you again, and trust you will be pleased to hear from me, —

In dating my former letters I believe that I made a mistake, by writing August in stead of Sept. but as I only missed it one month. I hope you will excuse me. — We have been living on the "Goddsp" since Monday Morning, and find it quite as pleasant, and much more convenient than boarding at the Planters, We were taken out on the dry docks this morning, and will probably remain on, until Tuesday Morning. —

We are nearly through painting; and when our new Carpet is laid, I expect the "Goddess" will look as fine as she did when new. — I have not concluded yet which way I shall go, if freights get a little higher, I will probably go to New Orleans, freight on Flour has advanced about 15 ¢ pr Bbl. Since I wrote you last, and other Articles in proportion, If I receive a letter from you in a day or two, I will write you again, and by that time, I will probably be able to know what I shall do, and give you the earliest information, as regards my movements in business. —

The Steamers "Mentor" and "New Orleans" sunk in this River, a few days since, on their downward Passage, from this place to N. Orleans. They were principally laden with Flour and Lead. You probably will get the information, before this comes to hand. — I have been somewhat unwell for two or three days this week, but am now restored to a perfect state again, I attribute my indisposition to being so much about the paint, which generally affects me, more or less. —

Our River remains quite low. only six feet to the mouth, I see by boats from Cincinnati and Pittsburgh, that the Ohio is in fine boating order, but all seem to complain of business being very dull. —

I would like very much to see you, and our little daughter, and the balance of the family, but as wishes will not do any good in this case, I will forbear, and try to content myself with the idea that I will see you at all events, before many M[illegible] rolls around. provided we are blessed with health &c. — tell "Ann Maria" that Father will come to see her, as soon as he can, And her Mother may take it for granted too. — Egbert enjoys good health, and sends his best respects. — May this find you all enjoying good health, is my ardent desire,

My best love to you, and our little daughter, and the balance of the family.

From Your Loving and Affectionate Husband

C. Gardner Peace

3 cts

Mrs. C. G. Peace,
care of Mssrs. Hartwell & Atkinson
Cincinnati, O.

Steamer Goddess of Liberty. St. Louis
Friday Evening 23d September 1842

My Dear Wife,

Yours of the 13th inst, and of the 16th by Capt. Fuller, have come to hand, and contents thankfully perused; I would have answered the first, sooner, but have been waiting to determine which way I would proceed with the "Goddess", and am still at a stand to know which will be the best course for me, as either is bad enough, I have however nearly decided on coming to Cincinnati, should no better inducements offer for New Orleans than what has as yet. — The "Goddess" looks fine, I think we will drop her down to the Landing about Monday, and if we determine on coming to Cinti, you may look for us, about the 4 or 5th of next Month, Should I hereafter conclude to go to N. O. I will write you immediately, after such a change, I know it will be necessary to give you the earliest information, —

I was much pleased with the contents of your first letter, as you no doubt, supposed I would be, —

Say to Cousin J. that she need not have any fears about Mr. Copp, for I think he will get well again. he has been up the Missouri River for some time past, and I think he has not as yet returned, I believe the Chapell family are all well, I have not seen any of them except "Alick", since I wrote you last. — Egbert has been somewhat indisposed for several days, and is now undergoing a course of Medicine, his attack is of a bilious nature, but not bad enough to confine him, I think he will soon be better. — I did not feel any well on Sunday last, and for a remedy, took a Mustard Emetic, which passed off the evening, since that time I have been very well. — If we decide on coming to Cincinnati, before the "Fort Pitt" leaves, I expect William will go with her to the Mouth of the Ohio, and then come back after us, —

I am quite anxious to see you, and our little darling, how cunning and Mischievous she must look crawling about the house, I hope she will soon walk, and learn to talk, you say she can utter some words very distinctly, do not let Mother and Cousin Jane spoil

her, and endeavor not to do it yourself
I see her so little, that there is not little
danger of me, And I think I can risk
Charley, Emeline & Aunty. —

The weather has been quite cool here
for several days, the Mississippi remains
low, only 6 feet in the mouth. —

I believe if you were not in
Cincinnati, I should not start the "Goodsp"
out at present, but as I am anxious to
see you, I will run the risk Making no
bobbins. —

I sincerely hope this may find
you well in good health, And that I may
soon see you, is my ardent desire,

Give my best love to all the family,
and accept the same for yourself & little
daughter, with plenty of kisses. —

from Your sincere and Affectionate Husband

C. Gardner Pearee

P.S. — I am written to all my
Eastern friends since I have been here, informing them of our
safe arrival, how we enjoyed ourselves on our homeward tour, &c. &c. C.G.P.

Mrs. C. G. Pierce,

care of Messrs. Hartwell & Richards,

per "Amazon" 3/3

Cincinnati O.

Louisville Oct. 7. 1842.

My Dear Wife,

I can inform that my health is still on the mend, I feel quite well, except I am weak, but think I will get along without having any more Chills or Fever, — It was 2. o'clk yesterday afternoon before we arrived here, in consequence of getting aground several times the River has fallen very fast since we went up, I have bought a Keel Boat here for the purpose of lightening out, and hope we will not have any more bad luck, — We are picking up some Passengers and freight, & expect to leave here to day about 10, o'clk A.M. —

Charley is well, and seems to like the business of steamboating very much, it is just about animation enough for him, as he always likes to be in a crowd, —

I would like very much to see you and our interesting little daughter this morning, but my wish is in vain, I must try to content myself for a while. —

As I have nothing very particular to write I will close, by sending my best love to you all, & lots of kisses to you & our little Daughter. — From Your affectionate Husband

C. G. Peard

PT BEAM
12½
Mrs. C. G. Pearce
Care of Mr. Jr. Hartwell & Richards
Cincinnati, O.

Oakland Dec 3rd 1842

My dear Wife

[illegible] left Oakland and [illegible]
[illegible] place and [illegible]
[illegible] door, we are about [illegible]
[illegible] Fair Haven & Portland & shall
[illegible] session of that [illegible]
two, and will then come up to Cincinnati
Mrs. Chapman is still on board the Boat
& am going to Louisville with me, the
[illegible] to put her on a boat for
Cincinnati Mr. C. left for St. Louis last evening
for [illegible] & [illegible] what [illegible]
we were at Oakland, Thos my own
[illegible] that [illegible] date as
[illegible] I hope she is [illegible]
I will come up as soon as I can have
the mail, & that [illegible] will
[illegible] the letter or [illegible]
[illegible] our freight [illegible]
in a few days & the "Sarah" [illegible]
[illegible] I think I will [illegible]
[illegible] I [illegible] [illegible]
[illegible]

From your affectionate Husband

C. F. Jones

Mr Smith

Louisville Oct. 30th 1842.

My Dear Wife,

After having [illegible] did not arrive here until Thursday evening, having stuck on the way on [illegible] and [illegible] ground, [illegible] at the [illegible] with [illegible] of [illegible] enough to float us afloat. [illegible] [illegible] [illegible]

Mrs. C. L. Pearce

Care of Mrs. Hartwell Alexander

Cincinnati, O.

Thanksgiving

Stmr. "Goddess of Liberty"
at Cairo Nov 16th 1842

My Dear Wife,

We have arrived at this point with but little difficulty on the way out, We struck at several diffrunt Bars, but was not detained any of consequence, The River is in much better condition than I expected to find it, when I left Cincinnati, if I had known as much as I now do about it, I might have held on one day longer at Cinti, & Louisville, thereby accumulated more Passengs, and brought out considerable more freight at high rates, — which would probably have been worth $1000 — to me, This top I attribute principally to the little confidence placed in our River men generally, and the uncertainty of learning the exact Stages of the River by them, —

Since I wrote you from Evansville we have been picking up Passengs, and some freight, and shall have a very fair trip when we land. — The Mississippi is reported to be rising, at St. Louis, but it is

quite low from here down, —

I often think of you, and our industrious little daughter, but as I cannot enjoy your good society, I hope this may soon come to hand, and find you all in good health, at present, the crew of the "Goodly" are all well with the exception of Cousin Geo. B. who I think is somewhat bilious, his diet is very simple, as he made his supper on Pills, and I have prescribed Oil for Breakfast, I have no doubt, but from this kind of treatment, he will soon recover. —

May this find you all in good health is my sincere wishes, Give my love to all the family, and accept the same, with lots of kisses, for yourself + our little daughter,

From Your Sincere and Affectionate Husband

C. G. Pace

P. S. — I will write you again, the first opportunity I have of sending it. which will probably be from Vicksburg or Ratcliff

C. G. P.

LOUISVILLE KY. AUG 21

STEAM

Mrs. C. G. Pearce,

care of Mrs Hartwell + Atkins

Please forward

Cincinnati O.

Steam Boat "Goddess of Liberty"
40 Miles below Cairo. Decr 6. 1862.

My Dear Wife,

With pleasure I take my pen in hand, to inform you that my health remains good, and fondly hope this may find you all enjoying the same, I would have written you from New Orleans, but was fearful that the large Boats would not get up, but since we left N.O. we have met Boats out of the Ohio, which indicates a rise in that River, — We are bound for St. Louis with a full freight, and quite a good number of passengers, if we have no delay in getting up, our trip will be a very good one, much better than we could have got for Cincinnati, as there were some 6 or 8 Boats up for that port whilst we were in N.O. — We shall arrive at Cairo this evening, when we will probably learn something relative to the stage of Water in both Rivers, we have just met two boats which we suppose to be out of the Ohio, and look as if they have been in the Ice, And as we have not met any Boats out of the Upper Mississippi for several days, we fear the Navigation has been obstructed by Ice, The weather here is tolerable warm and raining, which will help to clear the Ice out. —

- should there be any. -

Charles and Egbert are well, and both on board, I expect Charley will leave us at Cairo as we return, I will either write you again from St Louis, or by Charley when he leaves us, - If you will write me immed-iately on receipt of this, and get some one to put it on board of the first Boat bound for N. Orleans, I think it will reach there in time to meet me, ~~the~~ Select such boat as will be likely to get out, and direct the letter to the care of Jno. R. Shard & Co N. Orleans,

I should be very much pleased to see you and our little darling, but as I cannot, I will wish for your good health and happiness, without my society, with the assurance that I am with you, in all the tender feelings and care that may attend you, both as to my absence, and for the welfare of our little daughter, You will no doubt be disappointed when this comes to hand, to learn by its contents, that we are bound for St Louis, I would have decidedly pref-ered coming to Cincinti, But out of pure motives had to be actuated by what I thought to be the best interest of the "Goddess",

I can imagine how "Anna Maria" is chatting and no doubt ere this running about, I expect she will have several high accom-plishments before I see her, I suppose you have or will wean her soon, this matter however

you know best how to manage. —

Say to our little darling for me, that her Father is coming to see her by and by, to Mother, Condon & Aunty and Kate my best respects to them all, and assure them that I never forget my old friends, particularly Kate, when she gives me a "Lecture Gratis", say to her to keep a stiff upperlip and Charley shall be soon forthcoming, in all his usual dignity and glory. — The Boat shakes so whilst I have been writing, that it may be difficult for you to make out the contents. —

I send you by the care of Hartwell & Athearn, One Barrel of Oysters, and one Bar[illegible] which I hope may come to hand safe and in good condition, with two N. Orleans papers for the purpose of making Candis Jane a few Meals. —

May this arrive in safety and with dispatch, and find you, and all our family friends in good health, is my sincere wishes,

My best respects to all the family & my love to you, and our little darling "A. Maria" with an imaginary feast of Kisses,

From Your Sincere & Affectionate Husband

C. Gardner Pearce

B/L. with one Bbl + One Box

Mrs. C. G. Pearce,

care of Msp. Hartwell + Atheam

Msp H + A will

please forward

Cincinnati

O.

Capt C G Pearce,

Care of John R Shaw & Co

Memphis

New Orleans Dec 26. 1842

My Dear Wife,

I embrace the first opportunity of conveyance, which is by the Steamer "Ohio Belle" to inform you of our safe arrival in this port, about daylight this morning. We have not as yet been able to get into the Wharf, but are discharging our Cargo across other boats, there are a great many boats in port, both for the Ohio River, and for St. Louis, I have concluded to put up for St. Louis again as I think it much the best chance for a trip. Our receipts down are about $2800. which is much better than any of the Cincinnati boats can show of our class. You will no doubt feel very much disappointed on learning that I am not up for Cincinnati, it would afford me much pleasure if I was bound for that port. But as I have to take into consideration the interest of the "Paddy" I have to submit, contrary to my own wishes, We spent our Christmas as well as could be expected, on a Steam Boat and underway, business seems quite brisk here on the Levee, for holidays, which is

principally caused by the great amount of Produce & Cotton landing from the great rush of boats in port at this time.

The weather on our trip down was quite Wintrish. Here to day, it is as warm, and as mild as May.

Myself & Charles are in the enjoyment of good health, and fondly hope these few lines may soon come to hand, and find you, and all the family participating an equal blessing.

As the "Belle" is about ready to leave I must soon come to a close, but will take a minute to address myself more to you and our little daughter, I am very anxious to see you, as much so as any language could express. The more I think and imagine how interesting our little daughter grows, the more anxious I am to see her.

I will write you again soon and send you up some oysters.

My best respects to all the family and my best love to you, and our little daughter, with lots of kisses.

From Your Sincere and Affectionate Husband

C. Gardner Peace

Mrs. C. G. Pearce,

care of Mrs. Hartwell & Atkinson

per "Ohio Belle" Cincinnati

O.

St. Louis Jan. 10th 1843.

My Dear Wife,

I can inform you, that we arrived here yesterday, without receiving any injury, except the wash and tare of boat, which was considerable, as we had to force our way through the Ice, nearly all the way from Cairo up, and some part of the distance was very heavy, The weather here has somewhat moderated, and to day we have had quite a little flurry of Snow, with considerable Ice still running in the River, - We have nearly discharged our Cargo, and got clear of the most of our Emigrant Passengers, And if the weather continues mild, we will commence loading again for N. Orleans, and probably depart for that port, within Two days, as the water is on the fall, which will cause us to be in haste, - On the Evening of the 6th inst, whilst we were laying by to wood, we experienced a severe Storm of Wind and Rain, And as we proceeded on the next day, we saw the wreck of a Steam boat, just below Liberty, which is 75 Miles below St. Louis, And stopped to enquire what it was, an enquiry found it to be a little boat called the "Light" which was capsized by the Squall of the 6th inst, as mentioned above, -

the Cabin and Hull separated. The Hull sunk immediately by coming in contact with a snag, or log, whilst in deep water, and the Cabin was blown on shallow water, although nearly Mashed to peices, the Passengers and crew were all saved, except two, One deck hand, and one Fireman, who were drowned, the boat and Cargo entire loss. — Nothing particularly interesting here, they have had of late a street fight by some of their Gentlemen of Honor, and notoriety, with some other little occurrances, business in the way of trade quite dull, in consequence of the upper Rivers being closed by Ice, which cuts off all navigation. —

I saw Mr Alexander to day, he informed me that his, and the Chappell family were all well. — We had several births on the way up, among our emigrant Passengers, one of which was twins, a Boy & Girl, the boy they christened "Liberty," and the girl, "Goddy", the other name of the family I do not recollect — the Children are two or three days old, and I believe doing very well, This accounts for the fast sickness of the Mormon persuasion. — I wrote you from Cairo, to be put on board the first boat bound for Cincinnati, and inclosed $100 — in it. Also left to be forwarded by same conveyance, a small lot of groceries, One Bbl. Apples and a small Box of fruit, I fear the fruit will be lost, unless it should be kept some place where

it would not freeze. I have learned by
time I arrived here
some flying information, that the Ohio was closed
by Ice at Shawneetown, if so, your things will
not come to Land probably for some time to come.

My dear, I feel quite lonely this evening,
when I consider how long I have been separated
from you, and the probable length of time
before I will see you again, Although it is
a pleasure to me, to set down and pen you a
few thoughts, and reflect on our little family
circle, whose society I would like much to
enjoy, if it was only for one hour, But suffice
it to say That I cannot, Although I am almost
constantly thinking of you, and our little daughter,
and the balance of the family, and would go to
almost any thing to see you, yet I feel satisfied
and thankful while I here that you are in the
enjoyment of health, and adopted with the necessaries
of life, during this inclement season, Whilst in the
course of my travels, I see so many pinching both
for the want of food, and raiment, — I will probably
send you some papers, if I have time to get them,
and will write you again from Cairo or some
other convenient point, Myself & Charley are in
good health, and fondly hope this may soon reach
you & find you all enjoying an equal blessing, I hope
to receive a letter from you, on my return to Cairo,
you will please write an exact of this and direct to that point,
My best love to you, & our little darling & all the family,

From your Loving and affectionate Husband
C. Gardner Pearce,

ST LOUIS
JAN 11
PAID
Mrs. C. G. Pearce,
care of Msp. Hartwell & Richards
Cincinnati, O.

New Orleans 16th 1843

My dear Wife,

I can inform you, that we arrived here in safety on the evening of the 14th inst. and I should have written you sooner, if an opportunity had offered of conveyance, but there has not been any boat leaving since the evening we came in, I shall send this by the "Empress" which leaves here tomorrow, together with several other articles to say, 1 Bbl. Oysters, 1 Kit Salmon, 1 Box Oranges & 1 Bunch Bananas. The Salmon was presented to me in St. Louis. The "Hawkeye" came in this evening from the "Queen City". The Clerk of her, Charley Robinson, gave me a Cincinnati paper of the 9th inst, the day of their departure, by it, great parade was made to receive the Hon. John Q. Adams, and wait on him during his sojourn in the City. This arrival must have been quite an imposing scene, I saw Peter this evening the Cook of the St. he informed me that you were all in good health, and that he delivered the articles sent by him. I should write two letters to send to R. Island this evening so you may suppose I have enough to keep me busy until bedtime, We are again up for St. Louis, freights are quite reduced, but as usual I am put to purchase the principal portion of our Cargo, It has rained nearly all the time since we came in port

which makes things appear now dreary than they really are, I think our prospect fair to get a load of Dutch. 200 or 300 hand already arrived, I expect to know him on Saturday. — The health of this City is very good, and seems to be full of Strangers, quite unusual at so early a period in the season, F. Penn Esq. has made his appearance this trip as large as life, he informs me, that he has been spending about two months, at the most fashionable bathing places on the Lakes, Franks dressing apparel does not look quite as fine, as I have known him to display himself in, it is probably because he has been out of business for sometime, he rather complains of the times, And says, this is a hard "Old World". —

In the box of Oranges, you will find the latest N. Orleans papers, which I suppose will be very acceptable to Cousin Jane, — Cousin Joseph Gibson arrived here on the S.B. Tallyrand about the time we did, I suppose he is here for the Winter, he spoke of receiving a letter recently from Dr. Fisher Jr. in which he stated that he had made up his mind to get married, The sinking of the "Express Mail" was not as serious as I wrote you in my last from Cairo, She struck what is called the Grand Chain, while running or floating in the fog, and took 3 or 4 feet water in the hold, but by throwing off her deck load she was kept up and proceeded on to N. Orleans with her Passengers — She is now at Algiers

opposite this City, undergoing repairs. - The Steamer "Linda" was run into, and sunk a few days since by the "DeSoto" I suppose she will be a total loss. - The fine Steamer Fashion plying on the Lake between this City and Mobile, was driven on shore in a gale, a few nights ago. She has sustained considerable damage already, and some doubts remain whether she will not be finally lost. I feel as usual very anxious to see you, and think I must come to see you, either with or without the "Goddess" as soon as I wrote you in my last, I often, and almost constantly am thinking of you, and our dear little Ann Maria, and imagine how astonishing she must grow. I expect she is very busy inquiring "when her Father will come home, but may not feel as sensible as her dear Mother, I stay in hopes of getting a letter from you on my arrival at Cairo, and at St. Louis. - I what you all to be in readiness for a trip South some time this winter, I cannot at present set the time, it will be when the "Goddess" comes to Cincinnati, - I send the oysters in the shell, thinking they will keep, and be better than any other way I can send them, Give my love to Mother, and the balance of the family, and accept a Husband's best love and wishes, for yourself and our little Daughter,

From your sincere and affectionate Husband

C. Gardner Vance

"

P.S.— I have agreed with J. Cole
Barkeeper of the "Empire" to deliver the
Bbl. of oysters if they are in good order
when the boat is in Conti, I have
purchased them of on those conditions
Yours C.G.P.

New Orleans Jan. 23. 1843.

My Dear Wife,

Your Kind and affectionate letter of the 13th inst. came to hand yesterday by the Steamer "Ben. Franklin", and contents thoroughly perused, — I must again inform you, that the "Goddess of Libbty" is up for St. Louis, I tried to get a trip for Cincinnati that would justify, but could not, I expect to get a full load for St. Louis, by going into Bayou Lafourche after 200 Hhds. Sugar, — I have not got me, the letters sent by the "Diamond", She did not have them here as I can find, I have looked diligently for them without success, and have come to the conclusion that they are still on board of her, probably she may think to leave them at the mouth of the Ohio, However, I am very happy to receive the last, and to learn by it, that you and all in good health, — I suppose you will again be sorry when you receive this, to learn that I am bound for St. Louis, — We had a good time on the trip down after Charley left us, and arrived here night before last, And expect to get in my freight, and leave here on Tuesday Evening, — I feel anxious to see you, and was in hopes that I could succeed in getting a trip for Cincinnati, But

as I could not, I have come to your wise resolution, that is, console myself, that we will some day enjoy each others society, without the thoughts of a separation like the present. — I am pleased to have that our interesting little daughter is getting along so finely, she must be very interesting & lovely, how much I want to see her, I hope she will not forget me, — Myself, Egbert & Cousin George, and balance of your Crew, and all in the enjoyment of health, — I am pleased that the articles sent you by the "Monongahela" came safe to hand, I hope the fruit did not freeze to injure it. — I will probably send this letter by the "Franklin", whatever boat I send by, I will send you a Bbl. of Apples, and perhaps a Box of Fruit. — Say to our dear Cousin J. that I should be pleased to comply with your request, that is, to come home, and hope that I may soon see you all and enjoy your good society. — Say to Mother and Aunty, after giving them my best wishes, for their health and happiness, that they must not spoil my little darling, she is now old enough to begin to understand, and might easily be spoiled by the over indulgence of affectionate parents and relatives, I suppose however, as I hope may be the case, that you cannot be persuaded into the idea, that you will ever do any thing to injure her. —

The Weather is almost as warm here as Summer, and business tolerable brisk on the Levee owing to the great quantity of Western Produce landing from Boats, I saw Cousin J. Gibson this evening, and gave him the Compliments of our family, Thus in good health, he is here for the purpose of obtaining a situation as Book Keeper but has not, as yet succeeded. Sr, I will write you again from Cairo, till say Charley that I will write him etc, and inform him how we are getting along. I feel quite lonely this evening, and as usual am thinking of you, and our little "One." how I want to see you; I expect those around me, think I am but little company, as I say but very little to any of them. I presume when I have them, pleasure of seeing you, I will feel in a more talkative mood. —

I must soon close, by hoping this will soon reach you, and find you all in good health.

Give my best compliments to all the family, and accept my best love for yourself, and and little "Ann Maria".

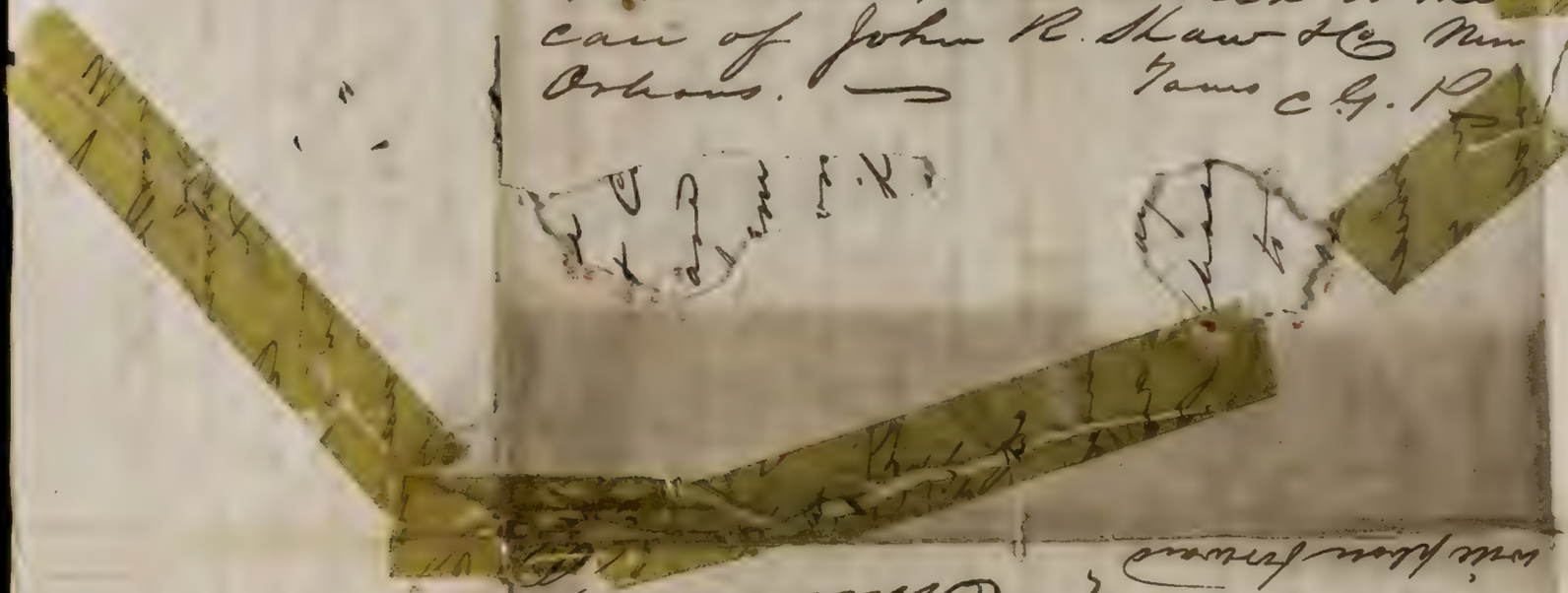
From Your Sincere and Affectionate Husband

P.S. — Please write on rec.t of this, and direct either to Cairo, or New Orleans — probably N.O. will be best. — "

C. Gardner Reed

Write soon, and direct to the
care of John R. Shaw & Co New
Orleans.

Yours &c. G. P.



Saint Louis Feb 21st 1843

My Dear Wife,

At length, I can inform you, that we arrived safe at this port to day, after being detained about two weeks by the Ice in the Upper Mississippi — On landing here Mr. Chapman from Cincinnati came on board, and informed me, that our "dear little daughter" had been very ill, supposed to be caused from her teething, but was considerable better when he left home, This was sad news to me, to learn that my infant darling was sick, and the space between us such, that I could not do any thing for her, nor even know in time to sympathize with her, while sick, as I sincerly hope She will fully recover ere this reaches you, You can judge better than I can describe, what my feelings were, on receiving the above information, — Have letters of the following dates 28th Dec, and 19th January, by Steams "Diamond" and "Scioto Valley" was rec'd, by me whilst at Cairo on the present trip up, and contents have been thoroughly perused, I was not satisfied until I had them over several Times in succession, Although the former letter by the Diamond, was a long time coming to hand, yet like the latter, I am thankful and happy when I receive such, from the dearest

which they contain, they contain every kind of language and feeling, necessary to warm and cherish family affection, descriptions of our poor little daughter as she has improved from time to time, is given in glowing terms, and occupies considerable space, which fully corroborates with my belief, knowing she is hard to excel, All this helps to cheer up an absent and lonely Husband and Father for such I am, and expect to be, until I return to the bosom of my family, who is dearer to me, than all the Earth besides — Your anxiety & desire for my return is manifested in strong appeals, both for my immediate return, and for me to remain at home with you altogether, I think I can fully appreciate with you on this subject, And would be happy to comply with all your wishes immediately, if my interest, and business affairs, was differently situated, but at present it requires my personal attention. — We are discharging our Cargo and I expect to leave again for N. Orleans in about three days, and think this will be my last trip South, I wish you were all here to accompany me, from N. Orleans I shall either go to Cincinnati, or return here, and then go to Cincinnati, at present I cannot say which, One being detained by sea will set us back Two weeks later than my former calculation when I wrote your last, which I sent from

Cairo, to the care of Avery Saunders & Co., in that, I stated, that you might look for me about the first of March, — I also sent you from Cairo One Box Oranges in care of Capt. H. Evans which I fear were frozen before you rec'd them, — The miner pies spoken of in one of your letters reminded me of by gone days, I have not seen any this winter, my mouth almost waters to think of them, — You cant imagine how dreary every thing looked, and how disgusted I felt while we were Icebound, as far as the eye could extend up and down the River, nothing was visible but mazes of Ice, and turning to the lofty Mountains nothing [illegible] to be seen but the forest trees, all [illegible]-ped in their richest verdure, and clothed in Mantles of Snow, Showing the Mortality of Man, — At present the weather is quite warm and raining & River rising & we soon look for a break up out of the Upper Rivers, — I called in at Mr Chappells to day, they are all well, the Ladies were all out at a Sewing Society, and poor Alex, was left at home, to take care, and quit his brats, — I would have written you sooner but had no way of sending a letter either by Mail, or any other conveyance, — Myself Egbert & Cousin Geo. all enjoy good health, —

I content my self thinking our little daughter is well before now, if I thought she was sick I should feel very uneasy about her, — My best love to all the family, and please accept the same for yourself and our little One, From Your affectionate Husband

C. Gardner Rand

Let Charley know how we are progressing

Tell Kate I hope she feels in a better mood since her Charley has come home,

I hope this will soon reach you, and find you all in good health is my sincere wish. — I hope you have every thing to make you comfortable during the inclement season, and how often I have thought of you, during the last cold weather — And how [illegible] but I am, and ever shall be, that we have [illegible] Mother, Yours. C.G.R.

I will write again from Cairo or some point below —

Mrs. C.G. Lewis,
care Major Nathaniel Lyon,
Cincinnati, O.

St. Louis Sunday Evening
February 26. 1843.

My Dear Wife,

With pleasure I again take my pen in hand, to drop you a few lines, trusting it will be thankfully received by the dear of my affections, To day it has been very pleasant here, myself and Egbert, have been twice to Church, The discourse this afternoon which we went to hear was delivered at the first Presbyterian Church in behalf of the boatmen on the Western Waters, they were highly complimented for the great changes, and moral improvement, as a body, within the last ten years, — My Brother in Iowa, was Married not long since to a Miss Stull, I never have seen the Young Lady, but am informed that she is a very amiable girl. — We expect to leave here for New Orleans tomorrow, freight is very scarce here at present, and at low prices, The river is quite low, say six feet water in the channel between here and Cairo, the Missouri and Illinois

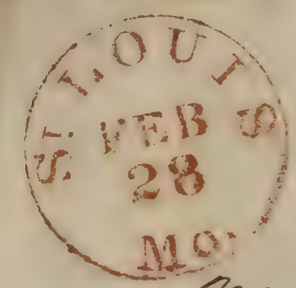
Rivers are still closed by Ice, and the Mississippi above Alton, but we may expect a break up from all the rivers in a few days. — I feel quite lonely when I consider how long I have been absent from you, to day, between church I have been perusing all your old letters to pass off the time, — as usual, how often and constant, do I think of you, and our little darling, I hope she is entirely well at this time, after hearing of her sickness it gave me considerable uneasiness, thinking she might be taken ill again,

On receipt of this, you will please write and address me at Cairo, in order that it may be there as I return. —

I will write you again the first opportunity — Give my best love to all the family, and accept my best wishes and all the love of a Husband heart for yourself, and a Fathers love, for our little daughter,

From Your sincere and affectionate Husband

C. G. Pearce



25

Mrs. C. G. Pearce

care of Messrs Hartwell & Atkinson

Cincinnati

O.

Cincinnati March 6th 1843.

My Dear Husband

I am truly happy and thankful to hear from you so frequently, this morning I have attentively perused yours of the 26th inst, and there is not any thing cheers my heart so much as a letter from my "own dear husband" with the repeated intelligence that you enjoy health as well as those around you, and have been so fortunate as not to meet with accidents whilst those who are engaged in the same business have lost all they possessed; how is it you have escaped! the only answer I can give is, "The goodness of God" I know you are not insensible to this subject it has occupied much of my thoughts and if there is one feeling of gratitude felt more than another within my breast it is to know that you have been watched over and preserved from danger, and now my great desire is that no accident may happen you before reaching home— Mr Chapman sent a St Louis paper to Louisa and in it the "Goddess of Liberty" was advertized to leave on Sunday, my dear you cant imagine how it troubled me, I did not believe you would leave on that day, and when I received your letter stating that you had been at Church I felt relieved and happy— — — — I was pleased to hear of Brother John's marriage, he has at last taken your advice

and followed your example; from my own experience in the married life, I will not hesitate to say, should his marriage prove a happy one he will never regret taking this important step; Mother Peace will have a great increase in her family of "children and grand-children" — — —
"our interesting daughter" improves daily in all that is lovely, I cannot begin to tell you of all her winning ways; she delights in cheating us by smacking her lips for us to come to her for a kiss and by the time we get to her she runs from us, if you could come in the room and see the animated little creature running and laughing your heart would leap for joy; I often wonder how Mother would pass her time without the "little pet" for her whole time is taken up in amusing and taking care of her; I do not think she will forget you as she never appears better pleased than when we are talking to her about "dada"; yesterday and the day before she was quite sick at her stomach, we suppose it is caused from her teething, but it may be the need of some medicine Egbert has not written to us since he left home, he hears through my letters that we are well and thinks that will suffice. Mother would be glad to get a letter from him, for how often she speaks of him and the happy change he has experienced; when I read to her about you and Egbert going to Church she says the "dear children" with tears in her eyes — — —
I hope it will not be necessary to answer this letter as I trust you will be bound for "home sweet home" —

I scarcely dare indulge the hope of seeing you from N Orleans for fear I may be disappointed, if I should be agreeably surprized then my heart will be light and joyful if Mr Chapman is with you upon receiving this tell him his people are well; I wrote to N.O. last week by the Congress which I hope will be delivered to you, you will also get one sent by the "Lucen" ——— I have heard from a very direct source that Mrs Stickney is expecting an "heir" each one of the family send a great quantity of love and a desire that you may be here very shortly — remember me to Egbert and cousin George; Sam Maria is taking a sweet nap but if she was awake she would send her love and kiss to "dada" and "my dear" accept the warmest affections of your sincere and affectionate Wife

J. Ann Peaces

1834

STEAM

Capt C. G. Pearce,
Steamer Goddess of Liberty
Care of W. Falls.
Cairo Ill.

S. B. "Goddess of Liberty" Mch 10th /63

My Dear Wife,

With pleasure I again take up my pen to inform you, that we are again on our passage down, and at this time about Sixty Miles above Vicksburg. We were detained about five days ascending the Upper Mississippi, by getting aground, and could not do any thing to extricate ourselves during said time, in consequence of the heavy running Ice, However up to this time, we have escaped without any serious accident to the "Goddess," except loss of time, which we must try to make up in vigilance hereafter, —

I saw Capt. Fuller, as he passed us while aground, he left a letter for me at Cape Girardeau, which I rec'd the next day, in it I was very happy to learn, that our little daughter, and the balance of the family, were all in the enjoyment of good health, at the Time he left Cincinnati,

I cannot now inform you whether I shall return to the "Queen City" from New Orleans, or by the Way of St. Louis, it will depend upon the best prospect that may offer for either place, for a good trip, — I often think of you, and our little "Ann Maria", and imagine how happy I shall be to meet you, after an absence of Five long Months, I expect to see a

great improvement in our industry, and loving little daughter, With you, I dont look, nor desire for any change, your examplary habits, and constancy as a Wife, possess all the vertues that my heart can wish, — To Mother, Cousin, & Aunty, say to them, that they are never forgotten by me, when speaking, thinking, or writing about home, I always bear due respect as a relative friend, and impart love to all,

May I soon have the pleasure of ~~seeing~~ seeing you all, is my present wish, and find you in the enjoyment of health, Under the protection of God, in whom, if we repose trust, is able to save to the uttermost, — One of our passengers who came as far as Memphis, was a Presbyterian Clergyman, he delivered a very good Sermon, on board the Boat, on last Sabbath while she was aground, his name was Williams

Wm S. Chapman Jr. is on board, and should his friends enquire, is in good health, and seems to enjoy himself very well. —

Myself, Egbert & Cousin George, are all in good health, I am more fleshy as I was, when we returned from our visit East, We are all expecting to receive letters from home, on our arrival in New Orleans, I have been looking every place we have stoped at, thinking a letter from you, may have been left for me, by some Boat, I am anxious to receive a letter from you, and hope

to be gratified, on my arrival in N. Orleans.
I shall have this letter at Vicksburg to be
put on board the first boat bound for the
"Queen City," and hope it may be bound to
you with despatch, and me, as an epistle
of glad tidings. —

I have again to day, been perusing all
my past letters from you, in one, you state,
that our long, and continued separation is too
much for your warm heart to bear, on reflection
of this sentence, I feel almost consciencious that
I am committing a wrong, by being separated
from you, While on the other hand, I see —
the [redacted] produced from the purest measure
of my heart, for the interest and welfare of
those, who I claim to be protector, and
guardian for, Although I have taken argu-
ment for granted as truth, without any defence,
Yet I can sympathize with you in all your
warm and affectionate feelings, and hope you
will still continue to bear your privations
with composure and firmness, until my return,
We have a very fair ship on board, — Should
Charley be in Cincinnati, let him know how we are
progressing, remember me to him, and Emiline. —
My best compliments to all the family, and
please accept my best love for yourself, and
our "little one" with plenty kisses. —

From Your sincere and Affectionate Husband
C. Gardner Pearce

Mrs. C. G. Pearce,

care of Mssrs. Hartwell & Atheans

by First Boat

Cincinnati

O.

S. B. Goddup of Liberty" Mch 24/43

My Dear Wife,

With pleasure I again take up my pen to let you hear from me, We are at this time about Fifty Miles from Cairo, and all in good health, as usual we are again bound for St. Louis, with a tolerable fair freight, and crowded on deck with Mormon Emigrants, Say 250 in number, including Men, Women & Children, They are bound for the City of Nauvoo (Ills.); I agreed to convey them to that point, but if I can reship them at St. Louis I shall do so, — My present intention is, to make my next trip to the "Iowa City", which will no doubt be very acceptable information to you, as well as being desirable to my own feelings. —

I wrote you on our passage down and left the letter at Vicksburg to be put on board the first good Boat bound for Cincinnati, I hope you have rec'd it ere this. — Your letters of the 3d Feby, and of the 1st inst. and rec'd, while I was in N. Orleans, and contents

– cheerfully pursued, as well as thankfully rec'd. It is possible that I may have to go beyond St. Louis with our duck passengers, provided I cannot make arrangement with some boat to take them up to the Rapids at a fair rate, in the event of this, or being detained in some other way, I will give you the earliest information by writing you. We learn at Memphis on our way up that the Upper Mississippi is still very low & all the Rivers above St. Louis blocked with Ice, We have had cold weather ever since we left N. Orleans, & some part of the distance the ground covered with snow, We were detained so long by Ice on our last trip, and the season being so far advanced, that I did not expect to see any Ice on our return trip, But the present prospect is, that we may have to contend with the Ice before we get up and out of the river again.

W. S. Chapman Jr. is on board and expects to leave us at the Mouth, I shall send you some Fruit by him, which I will hereafter discribe, You may say to his wife, that I have taken good care of him, and kept him under my protection, and gave

him a State Room next to my own, in the Ladies Cabin, where I knew he would be safe, = Cousin J. Gibson was on board several times whilst we were in R. Janeiro his family and all when he last heard from them. he sends his best compliments to all our family. = I was very happy to learn by your last letter, that our interesting little daughter had fully recovered from her late indisposition, I cannot with pen & paper discribe how happy I shall be to meet you once more and find you all in the enjoyment of health. = I often imagine how interesting little Darling must be, when I consider what improvements she has made since I left her. I learn both to talk and to walk, I hope she may recollect me, but fear she will not. = The Boat shakes so bad, that I can scarcely write so as to be understood. In my last letter you will perceive the word spelled wrong, which should have been wrong I did not recollect the mistake until the letter was sealed. = Our dear Cousin J. shall be gratified, I hand a few seeds of Bannanas, which I shall send you when fruit & hope you may all enjoy it. My love to all. From your sincere & affectionate H.

C. G. Pease

Mrs. C. V. Pearce

Postmistress of

W. J. Chapman Esq

Cincinnati

O.

St. Louis March 28th 1843

My Dear Wife.

I can inform you, That we arrived here this afternoon, after experiancing considerable detention and Trouble in consequenced of low water, we were four days coming from Cairo to this City, and had to light our Naval Bard, by putting out our passengers and some freight, so you will understand that wid Laws our own troubles, there is only 5 feet water in the channel between here and Cairo - the weather here at this time is quite Winter like with Several inches Snow on the ground. the Missouri River & Mississippi above Alton, are still closed by Ice, the Illinois River has broken up, at last a part of it. — Your Kind favor of the 6th inst was rec'd at Cairo, and contents thankfully perused, and almost committed to memory, — I wrote you last and sent by Mr Chapman, who left us at Cairo, and hope you have rec'd it, and this I also sent by M.C. some fruit, which I hope you will receive in good order. — We saw Mr. Evans family as they passed down

on the Stmr. "Diamond". – Agreeable to promise in my last, I am to give you the earliest information relative to my next proposed trip, business movements &c., which I am now endeavoring faithfully, and punctually to perform. You would probably ~~which~~ wish to know, which course the "Gaddis" steers next. I am very happy to inform you, that our present intention is to come around to the "Queen City", which information will no doubt be gratifying ~~to~~ to you, with the prospect of soon returning to my "only and sweet home", where I expect to meet a loving wife, and interesting little daughter, as well as kind friends, I can assure you, that I feel quite animated and cheerful. – I think I can ~~have~~ negotiate to ship my Sapungus and freight, on tolerable fair terms. – We shall go ahead and discharge our freight as fast as possible, and I think leave here for Cincinnati on Friday or Saturday next, which will be the last day of this month, and the first of next. Should any thing which I am not at present apprized of, occur to interfere with the above arrangement, I will give you the earliest possible information, that you may not be held in –

Sapinder, relative to my arrival home.

In your last, you mentioned that "Ann Maria" had been unwell again. I hope she has fully recovered ere this, And that this epistle may greet you with dispatch, and find you all in the enjoyment of good health. We and all well on the "Gaddup". Eyhut continues very steady, he is out this evening distributing the fruit which he brought up on the Boat, I do not know where he is dispensing his good gift. But as I am originally a Yankee, I suppose I could guess.

I have not been off the Cove, therefore I have no City news to communicate you. I saw Alexander at a distance did not speak to him, therefore I am not able to inform you any thing relative to the Chappell family. I did not have time to go to inquire, this evening whether I have letters from any section of Country or not.

My "dear" you cant imagine what a happy fellow I am, with the present expectation of soon seeing you.

Remember me to all the family, and accept the love of a kind and affectionate Husband for yourself & your little dear, with kisses enough for a feast until I arrive,

From Your Sincere & affectionate Husband, C. V. Lucie

37½

Wm. O. G. Pearce,

care Messrs Cartwell & Atkinson

Cincinnati, O.

S. S. "Goddess of Liberty"—
Monday Evening May 2nd 1864

My Dear Wife,

We are at this time about Fifteen Miles above Cairo, with the Steamer "Meridian" in tow. She broke her Engine very badly about 100 Miles above here when we took her in tow this morning.—

The misfortune of the "Meridian" breaking is our gain, So you will perceive that it's an ill wind that blows no one any good.

We shall leave the "Meridian" at Cairo, and put on with our usual Speed again, we have a part of her freight on board, and have taken all her Passengers which makes us full to overflowing in the Cabin & on Deck all well on board & we have come thus far with dispatch & safely.—

My love to all the family, and please accept the same for yourself—& your little Daughter, with Kisses enough to last until my return

From Your Sincere & affectionate Husband

In haste.— C. G. Pearce

Louisville May 6th 1843

My Dear Wife,

I can inform you that we arrived here in safety this morning about daylight, just as they were dashing the glim of this fair City as we use the term in a Nautical phrase, in other words just as they were extinguishing the beautiful Gas lights, which answers us for a Beacon some 6 or 8 Miles distance from the City.

We had a pleasant night and succeeded very well in getting freight & Passengers after leaving the "Queen City" at the different points, say Lawrenceburg, Aurora &c, our State Rooms are all taken & some will have to look out for a soft plank on the floor, our deck is also well filled, But I dont pretend to compare this with our two former trips, although we have enough on board to defray our expenses. Since sunrise it has commenced raining very steadily, which will somewhat interfere with our getting freight & passengers. The Steamer Gen. Morgan is in port with us, and up for St. Louis, but she is but little, or no opposition to us,

We expect to have her to day about 10. o'Clk A. M. for St. Louis.

As an opportunity offers, I take great pleasure in penning you a few lines in accordance with your wishes, You will very readily discover, that the "Goddess" is so poor that we have no letter paper on board, therefore necessity in a rainy morning requires me to use the last we have, — as I have nothing in particular to write further, that will entertain you & time being somewhat precious, I will close, by sending my best love to you all & plenty of kisses to Last you and our little darling until I return, — Myself & Egbert are well and flying about as usual.

From Your Sincere & affectionate Husband

C. Gardner Pearce

" " "

STEAM 12½

Mrs. C. G. Paine
care of Mrs Hartwell / Athens
Cincinnati, O.

Louisville May 2d 1843

My Dear Wife,

I hasten to pen you a few lines informing you of the loss of the "Goddess" by striking the rocks while crossing the falls opposite this city yesterday we succeeded in running her to the foot of the falls and landed against a sandbar when all the passengers were saved before she sunk. She now lies in about 8 or 10 feet water, whether we shall be able to gain her I cannot at present state. I have discharged all hands & hired such as are necessary to work at the wreck until I can receive instructions from the underwriters. I expect to have to remain here for several days, but will write you further particulars tomorrow. All well who claim to be late of the "Goddess". My best respects to all the family & hope Cousin Jane, my Land steward and this, accept my best love for yourself & our little daughter.

Your affectionate Husband

Jno Lasher

The Goddess is insured for about $8.000

C. G. Lasher

Mrs. C. G. Pearce

care of Hartwell & Atheron

Cincinnati, O.

Louisville May 21st 1843.

My Dear Wife,

I again addrs you to day, but cannot state any thing further in particular, relative to the "Goddess" only that we are still going ahead and saveing the Cargo as fast as possible. The water is falling tolerable fast which is favourable in getting out the Cargo. The Goddess is bound twisted, and it yet remains doubtful whether she can be raised, but we will know in a few days what can be done. I think I shall abandon her to the underwriters as she now lies. But must act for them, until they send down an agint, or instruct me to attend to their affairs &c. I hope Cousin Jane and Egbert have fully recovered ere this. In case the Goddess is ultimately lost she is insured for $ 8.000 — and 1/3 of all that is saved from the wreck will belong to me by paying 1/3 of the expenses for saveing the same.

My compliments to all the family & my best love to you & our little daughter. Your affectionate Husband

C. G. Reed

Wm. C. G. Peace

care Msp. Hartwell & Richmond

Cincinnati

O.

Louisville May 22. 1843

My Dear Wife,

I can inform you, that we are still progressing in saveing the Cargo from the wreck of the "Goddess" — the water is still on the fall, & we think of trying to raise her, and probably will determine shortly what course will be best to pursue. — I rec'd Egbert's letter yesterday after writing you. — I have not yet rec'd any information from any of the Insurance Offices at Cincinnati, therefore I am still bound to remain here and do the best I can for all parties concerned. — Say to Egbert that he had better take a trip down to our "City of Misfortune", if he feels able, I think it will do him good. — We are all well, and have procured a fine House near the Goddess, where we have taken up board & lodgings & stored all the bedding &c belonging to the Co. — I hope this may find all well — My Compliments to all the family & my best love to you & our little daughter with plenty of kisses.

Your Affectionate Husband

C. G. Rowe

P. S. The "Goddess" lies at Shippingsport. I only come to Louisville once every day to enquire for letters &c. – Therefore I have to write in haste & return – I shall be pleased to receive a letter from you, as I expect not to be able to come home for some days, whether we raise the Goddess or not, – The weather remains quite cold here. I have made inquiry but cannot hear of any Strawberries being in Market yet. –

Yours truly.

C. G. Parsons

Chas. C. G. Pace

care Mrs. Hartwell & Hannaw

Cincinnati, O.

Cincinnati May 23d 1843

My Dear Husband

I have been much pleased to hear from you so frequently and to hear that all are well and safe; when I first heard of the "Goddess" being sunk I was startled, although for a long time I have been prepared to hear of some such accident happening to the Boat; you have passed and repassed dangerous places where the best have been lost and have remained uninjured until this time; I feel grateful for past favors which you have enjoyed and am still thankful that you are blest with health and life and that your loss is not as great as it might have been; — the letter which you wrote on saturday did not come to hand until this morning together with the last you wrote, I received one yesterday which was written on sunday the first I had heard from you; Egbert said Mr Young of the Insurance office wished to see it, I thought he was anxious to see if any thing was written which could be made a handle of; for a moment

I felt a feeling of resentment and told Egbert I would not have my letters exposed to the public, at the same time I knew you had not written anything ~~that~~ to keep concealed I finally concluded to send the letter, for by keeping it back I thought Mr Young would think the letter contained something secret; I gave it to Egbert but he has not as yet taken the trouble to show it — — — I must close Egbert is just ready to leave; the morning we heard of your accident we were in great confusion and alarm about Ann-Maria she climbed on a chair and reached a box of Lozenges which Egbert had been using and eat 3 or 4 which was all that the box contained, she was deathly sick for a short time, we immediately sent for the Dr who at first was much alarmed fearing they contained opium; she was quite lively in ~~an~~ two or 3 hours and is now as well as usual; Lavonia is recovering I have not felt very well since you left I think I am bilious; I hope to see you 'ere long; "my arms are open ready to receive you" — all unite in sending their love — a kiss and much love from your sincere and affectionate

Wife J Ann Pearce

written in great haste

Capt C. G. Pearce

Louisville

Ky.

Louisville May 25th 1843.

My Dear Wife,

I date this letter Louisville, but do not expect to go to town to day, nor was I up yesterday. I have also neglected writing you for two days past, being very busily engaged at our old stamping ground the "Wreck of the Goddess" at Shippingport. The House which we all make it our home at present is a very good one, being quite large, and only one small family residing in it. We of course being the largest party, have the Monopoly of the House, I have given it the title of "Liberty Hall" and endeavor to enjoy myself as well as I can under my present circumstances, which are not very pleasant, for a person like myself, who has been in the habit of moveing on a floating water craft, from City to City, at will, without any previous serious obstruction.

Egbert arrived here yesterday on the "Victory" bringing me a letter from you, which was only thankfully rec'd, and contents soon perused, I was very sorry to learn by it, that our little "Ann Maria" had been made sick by eating Lozenges, but was soon relieved by taking a line or two further to ascertain that she had

fully recovered from her late indisposition.
I was also pleased to find Egbert's health quite improved on his return to us. I hope Cousin Jane may soon recover her usual health, and that your health may be improved from your slight bilious attack. "
The freight is nearly all out of the Goddess and we made quite a shipment yesterday by the Victory, and as it was necessary that some one should go to deliver it, the task was allotted to Egbert, by choice of his own, he and his friend J. Avery will have fine times on the Victory and their way to St. Louis.
We are all in first rate health, have plenty of work, and enough to eat. Charley sends his love to you all. but says he does not feel in a writing mood.
The water at this point, continues on the fall and the Goddess his tolerable straight, I have entered into a contract to have her raised and repaired when she may be injured by her late accident for $1000. and if they fail to do it. they are to receive nothing. They made an attempt yesterday but did not succeed. to day they will have more pumps and more hands, and I think they will probably succeed in getting her up. if so, they are to put her on the Dry dock at this place to undergo such repairs as are necessary, and which in their contract they have agreed to do.
Mr A. Gordon of Galton arrived here yesterday. he

was sent down by the Cincinnati Ins. Offices to render any assistance I might want. he being a steam boat builder, and of course understands the nature of raising & launching boats, on his arrival here I informed him the steps which I had taken, and he said it would perfectly satisfactory to the Cinti. Offices & what he would have advised with me to have done, I explained to him that she was worth $100 to whoever it might concern to raise her & if they did not succeed it would not cost any thing for the experiment, On the other hand we might go to work and spend $1000 or more, and not accomplish any thing, I have not much to do, or say at present, only to watch their movements and advise with them, as I am still Boss over all. If my contractors succeed in raising the "Goddess" I think you may expect to see us in Cincinnati, sometime next week, I am as anxious to see you, but unless sickness should call me home, cannot think of leaving her while they are making an effort to raise her, or if they should succeed, whilst she may be undergoing repairs.

My best love to all the family & should accept a full share for yourself & our little pet. You may expect a letter from me again soon. I often think of you & our past calculations for you to go around with us the next trip.

Your sincere and affectionate Husband

C. V. Peace

Mrs. C. G. Pearce,
care of Mrs. Hartwell & Atkinson
Cincinnati,
O.

Shippingport. May 26. 1843.

My dear Wife,

I have only time to say a few words — The Godolph has been raised and is now on the Dry docks, undergoing repairs — You may look for us at the Lower City — in four or five days — all well on board. The Valley Forge is just ready to go out of the locks & I have not time to write further — Please inform Wm F. Fallon that I wish him to come down to Louisville by Sunday Morning to be in readiness to take the Godolph up to Cairo, if he is not otherwise engaged

My love to all —

Your affectionate husband

C. G. Greene

Louisville, May 27th 1843

Mrs. C. G. Lane

Care Hackstaff & Atkinson

Cincinnati O

Shippingsport May 28th 1863

My Dear Wife,

We are progressing with our repairs, and expect to come off the dock by next Tuesday morning. You may look for me home on Wednesday Morning, should we not be detained, The "Goddess" was not injured very much by her late accident, but I have thought best to give her a thorough Caulking, to save the expense of another dockage.

I have not been to Louisville for several days past, but left orders for my letters to be sent down, I have not rec'd. but the one from you, which was handed me by Egbert, I am daily expecting a letter from you.

I have not heard from Egbert since he left us. We are all well on board.

Give my best respects to all the family and accept my best love for yourself and our little "Ann Maria" with kisses enough to last you until I arrive,

Your loving and affectionate Husband

C. Gardner Pearce

Mrs. C. G. Pearce,

care Mrs Hartwell & Atheam

Cincinnati, O

Louisville June 17th 1843

My Dear Wife,

We arrived here this morning about daylight, in safety. The night was cool & changeable, with intermittent showers of rain. We had quite a good number of Passengers from the Cincinnati, and here we have filled up to overflowing as usual. We have the Steamer New York to day for a competitor, but she is doing nothing in the way of getting passengers, all the harm she does us is to cut down on the price of passage & then we get the preference & take them on the "Goddess" as you might very naturly suppose.

We shall leave here at 10. o'clk to day with as much freight as we want, and a very fair show of Passengers, And will be able to go over the Falls.

All well on board the "Goddess"

My best compliments to all the family, & accept a Husband's & father's best love, & wishes, for yourself & our dear interesting little daughter.

From Your Sincere & Affectionate Husband

C. G. Race

" "

Mrs. C. G. Pearce.
care Mssrs. Hartwell & Latham
Cincinnati,
O.

Cairo Saturday. Morning Sept 9. 1843

My Dear Wife,

I have just time to address a few lines to you, and can inform you that we are safely out of the upper River with a tolerable fair freight, Espungus Searce, Charley has written to Emeline, which you will tear off and send her. —

I did not make any arrangement while I was at St. Louis, but have an [illegible] in view, I shall go down to N. Orleans this trip, if I do not hear that the sickness is too bad to prevent me, and on my return, I calculate to go to St. Louis with the boat, and return with her to Cairo, from thence load for Cincinnati, should my thing move right, and nothing happen to interfere with this proposed arrangement

May this soon reach you, and find you all in good health, is my sincere wishes,

Give my love to all the family, and accept the same for yourself, and our interesting little daughter, I shall look for a letter from you on my return to St. Louis.

From your sincere & affectionate Husband

C. G. Pearce

P. S. I will write you often, &

Cairo Ills. Sept 12. 1843 25

Mrs. C. G. Pearce,
care Mrs. Hartwell & Atkinson

Cincinnati
O.

Cincinnati Sep 14th 1843.

My Dear Husband

After waiting a day or two with a bounding heart every [illegible] the [illegible] expecting it was a letter from my "dear Gardner" my expectations have at last been realized and as usual the letter has been read again and again, and now I am prepared for another — — — I was gratified to hear of your getting out of the Ohio with but little detention and in safety; I think you started from there in very good time as there has not been as great a rise in the Ohio as you speak of in your letter, but if you had waited until this time you would have found no difficulty as it is raining in torrents and has been raining very steady for a week — — we have had some excessive warm days and also very cool weather; a fire and warm clothing feel quite comfortable Mr Maffit left the Queen city last week for Louisville I have heard that he was not pleased with his visit in Cincinnati, he says he did not meet with a warm reception, from the number who attended his preaching and lectures I should think quite the reverse; — his next visit will be at St Louis and from thence I suppose to N Orleans, give him an invitation to take passage on the "Goddess" he may be the instrument of doing great good; on Sabbath morning Prof Durbin preached in Wesley Chapel, I was not there but it was a "great sermon" the house was so crowded as not to leave a vacant spot

the great, learned and distinguished men of our city were there also many who are not in the habit of attending any Church; Cousin says he spoke as though he was inspired and inspired all who heard him; how I regret you have missed this great treat; how does Charles get along, we have heard a very ill report of his conduct in St Louis whilst you were at home, if he does not reform I fear his end will be ruin and disgrace; I am inclined to think you have not told us all you know of his conduct but to save our feelings have kept it from us; after hearing all that we have Mother said she felt as though she would go immediately to St Louis and give Charles such a talking as he had never had; if any one can have influence over him I think you can; exert yourself to keep him from evil and worthless company, and when you see him in error reprove him do not feel a diffidence in doing so as a word may save him; — Poor Emeline has but little to cheer her as the prospect at present for their earthly happiness is not at all flattering; I think she is entirely ignorant of his conduct and it is best that she should be; I feel deeply interested for him and I am fully convinced that unless he alters his course he will not have one friend but go on to the broad road of destruction; remind him to write to Emeline she says she has no reason to expect a letter as he did not say when he would write, there is no doubt but that she is sensible of neglect but is possessed of strength of mind to conceal her feelings; — I know you will do all that is in your power. ——— Charles Hartwell is up from N.O he called on us this week and told us he passed the U. Idefs

in the Ohio; he had just returned from his sister in laws funeral at Madison, she was William Hartwell's wife he spoke of her with tears in his eyes as she was much beloved by all the family, she was a very amiable, interesting woman an only sister to Mrs George Hartwell who is still absent from home, it will be sorrowful news to her — we suppose she died in confinement as Charles said she left a babe a week old ——— Ann Maria is crying to see Mama, I have left my writing several times to soothe her, as she is in good hands I shall proceed with my letter; she improve every day she is learning to sing and makes a very good beginning, her principle tune is "Papa you must come home" and holy angels guard Papa"; she talks a great deal about Uncle Peter; you know as much as I can tell you —— my [redacted] is about the same as when you left me, health several days after you left I was very sick every day, I had the heartburn worse than ever and had resort to your effectual cure the Lozenges, I eat a great number thinking the more I eat the sooner I would feel relieved but they operated on me as an emetic, I vomited very freely which I think did me much good as I have not had as sick a spell since; when I feel so indisposed I get low spirited, I ought not to give way to such feelings for there are so many who are more deeply afflicted ——

I am still anxious to be with you and in my present situation I feel that it is very necessary to have your societi and attention occasionally; I have no fears but you will do all in your power to add to my happiness ——

I heard that your Pilot Mr Fleming left the boat because Montfort was there, when I heard he was with you I supposed you had given him a birth out of compassion, I think he will be no great

benefit to you and the worse companion Charles could select — I am now looking for another "loved epistle" to gladden my heart — we have received but the one letter from Egbert — remember us to Charles, Dulce and George —
accept a Mother's and Cousins love a kiss from your "precious darling", many kisses and the unbounded love of your affectionate
Wife S. Ann. Pearce,

Capt E. S. Pearce
Care of W. H. Turner & Co
St. Louis
Mo.

D

worth

I have not received any duck dresses thinking you might possibly have got them in St L I shall soon need them
I am so anxious to be with you, the world is a blank to me without you. I hope you will soon be successful in making arrangements to not think me too urgent for I shall be so happy to be where I can see you occasionally.

Steam "Goddess of Liberty"
75 Miles below Cairo Sept 22. 1843

My Dear Wife,

I am happy to inform you through the medium of this Epistle, that God, in his all wise Providence has shield and preserved all our healths up to the present time, for which we need be very thankful,

We are on our upward trip, bound for St. Louis with full freight + some Passengers, report says, there is only 5 feet water in the upper Mississippi at some of the worst Bars, which will suit us quite as well as a higher stage, as we anticipate high rates of freight down, in consequence of the large Boats not being able to run. — We have met a multitude of Boats out of the Ohio River, and learn that there is about 15 feet of water, some of the Steamboat class, descending over the Falls at Louisville. —

Luther J. did not go down with us. I sent him to see his Brother in Iowa, fearing he might take the Fever if he went below, he not being acclimated to either the West or South. —

I still contemplate on coming to Cincinnati on return with the Boat from St. Louis, should every thing move in accordance with my wishes &c. —

The health of New Orleans is good for the season the Yellow Fever having somewhat on the increase up to the time of our departure, October will no doubt be the most fatal month.

As an opportunity offers, I send you by Mr. Jno. Pierce one of the Ohio Pilots, a Package containg two French Calico dress Patterns which I purchased for you in N. Orleans, they are of the latest style having been imported only 5 or 6 days prior to purchasing them, they are not very gay, as I selected dark patterns that will answer for every day wear, I hope you will be pleased with them. I will also send you a small Box containg oranges and lemons which as well as the package will be directed to the care of Mrs Hartwell & Latham, around the Calicoes you will find the latest N Orleans Papers, which will no doubt be very gratifying to your talented Cousin Jane.

I shall expect a letter from you, on my arrival at St Louis, and will write you whether I conclude to come immediately to Cincinnati or not, should I not come, I will write you again from Cairo. I often think of you and our interesting little daughter, and the family generally, may my expectations soon be realized in seeing you all.

Freights in N. Orleans were very abundant for St Louis, we were only 3 days in discharging and receiving our cargo, our voyage from St Louis, until we return again will only be 16 or 17 days at furthest,

May this soon reach you, and find you all in the enjoyment of good health, is my sincere wishes. —

A word to "Sam Maria" before I can close, tell her, that her Father is coming home to see her, and I expect it will be equally gratifying to yourself — I hope you will be able to make out what I have endeavored to imitate into words, the Boat shakes so that I can scarce write a legible hand,

I send my best respects to all the family, and my best love and wishes to yourself and our little daughter with kisses enough to last you in a fasting manner, until I am safely welcomed to the Arms of my beloved Fanny —

From Your Sincere and Affectionate Husband

G. G. Pierce

" " "

With one Package & One Box Fruit

Mrs. C. G. Pearce,

care Mess. Hartwell & Atkinson

Cincinnati,

O.

Subscriber of

Ins. River Eng.

St. Louis Sept. 24th 1843.

My Dear Wife,

We landed here safely this morning about 8. o'clock A.M. and lay by to rest for the day, it being Sabbath. Tomorrow we shall commence discharging with a rush if we are favoured with a good day, which has that appearance at present; and load for N. Orleans the two preceding days. Freights are tolerable abundant for both, and at fair rates. I still conclude on leaving the "Goddess" at Cairo on her present trip down, and take flight for the "Lawn City"

So you may look, or expect to hear from me about the 3 or 4th prox^o, In case any thing prevents me from coming I will give you the earliest information from Cairo.

Your letter found from of the 14th inst. is at hand, and contents have been perused, and noted I am happy to hear from you and am thankful to learn by its contents that you and all in the enjoyment of usual health. I wrote you from Cairo which I hope will meet with dispatch, as I am anxious you should know that we are all in good health.

You speak of Charley's conduct while he was at St. Louis at different times on ——

customs of mine. I have learnt by Jno. Fuller Jr. since I arrived here, that he was somewhat imprudent in several respects, since he left Cincinnati on our last trip he has been very steady and attentive to business. I shall leave him in charge of the "Goddess" when I leave her; thinking he will do as well for me as any one, besides have the effect to stimulate him to a rank of notice and respect.

Lester J. has not made his appearance yet, I hope he will remain in Iowa until the boat makes another trip as I gave him privilege so to do, if he should wish.

I have seen Jno. Fuller since and arrived he is well, & wished to ship some Tobacco by us. I felt considerably animated while writing this epistle, thinking I will soon see my affectionate wife, and loving little daughter

My best respects to all the family, and please accept the love and best wishes of your affectionate and loving Husband

C. G. Pearce

Mrs. C. G. Lance,

care Wm. J. Cartwell & Abram

Cincinnati, O.

Louisville Oct 4th 1843

Dear Wife,

I can inform you, that we arrived here this morning about 10. o'clk, and expect to leave in a few hours, I went & found "Aunty" without much difficulty, She seemed very much pleased to see me, enquired after all the family & more particularly after our little "Darling" — Aunty has been troubled unwell since She has been here with a bad cold, She informed me that Wm Fuller called on her, as he passed through this City. She is calculating to return home, when John comes from St. Louis, which will probably be in about one week from this time, as She informs me, — "Aunty" seems very well contented in her mind, except the improbable, or as She fears, the ultimate loss of her Feather, which She left on board the "Goddess", I have agreed to volunteer my services in pursuit of the same. —

We had a very pleasant Passage down except being stopped by fog about 2 O'

- clock, until daylight, which was the cause of our coming here at so late an hour — We left Cincinnati, landing here after I left you yesterday I had just time to call at two of the Insurance offices, where I had business, and get on board the boat before she was ready to leave —

I hope Mother will succeed in getting "Nancy and her clan out of the House in the Alley, and if so, say to Mother for me, not to be in too great a hurry about getting a new Tenant, but make such repairs as she may think proper, and then rent it all to one person for a boarding House or to two smaller families, whichever will pay best — If she can let it in either case to have the rent in advance Monthly, or quarterly, it will save her a great deal of trouble and anxiety — I would strongly recommend it, if she has to let the House lay idle for a month or more to procure such Tenants. — I have just heard by the Steamer "Hark away" that she left the "Goddess" in N. Orleans & would probably leave about the time I expected. —

I Love as usual, after thought of you and our darling babe. I hope you will make immediate application or get Medical advice relative to her eye. I have thought many times of what it might terminate since I left home. — I wish you would write me on receipt of This, and direct to Cairo care of M. Fields, it will be in time to meet me on the way out from St. Louis, you can send it by Mr. Fuller should he return soon, or let Mr. Thomas or his man Edwin put it on the first b[oat] for St. Louis, or N. Orleans, the [St.] Louis boats will be the most likely to stop at Cairo. — I am not in time for the Mail boat, but will send This on the "Hark away" as she is coming thro the Canal. I have just seen the clerk of the H. he says the "Goddess" landed along side of them, and all well on board, but the sickness was very bad below when they left. I will write you again from St. Louis, and as often as an opportunity offers

My love to all the family, and please accept the same for yourself and our little daughter, — Your fond & affectionate Husband

C. Gardner Pearce

Mrs. H & A. with please [illegible]

Mrs. C. G. Peace,

care Mrs. Hackett & Atkeson

[illegible]

Cincinnati,

O.

St. Louis Oct. 16th 1863.

My Dear Wife,

I am happy to inform you, that I arrived here safely yesterday morning, I acted in the capacity on board of the "Congress" as Captain from Caird up. Capt. Marsh left her to attend to some business of importance of his, or relating to the boat at Vicksburg. The "Goddess" beat us here two days, and I found them all in good health on board of her, not a single officer sick during the trip. They had discharged, and were waiting for me, to know which course to take, I have decided on going to N. Orleans, although prices are very low, but considerable many passengers going down, I would have put up for Cincinnati, if there had been any chance of getting even a common trip, but since I landed here there has not been up than 8 boats up for Cinti, all ready to leave any time.

The "Congress" & "Diadem" and among the boats up for the "Queen City", they both came here with the expectation of loading for N. Orleans I think they cannot help losing money by the operation. I expect to load the "Goddess" and be ready to leave here on Wednesday (18th inst)

I will now inform you, that I have had the pleasure this evening of attending the wedding of the long protracted couple of this goodly city. The house was full to overflowing, and the "Goddess" was fully represented in the number, every thing went off in good style whilst I remained, I partook of the Cake, and a glass of Lemonade, and went through a few of the necessary formalities expected on such an occasion, and took leave of the guests at the early hour of 9 o'clock. And like a dutiful Husband, have taken up my pen to address a few lines to the object of my affections who is first and always in my mind. —

I am just as anxious now to see you and our darling daughter, as though I had not been home in a year, I find as well as yourself, that I am hard to wean, Say to our darling that Father wants to see her, and will come home by and by — I found Dulcie here, but not in very good health, he is however some better, I think his attack was something of a bilious nature, and rather inclined to chills and Fever. —

Mr. Cofer & Lady leave here tomorrow on the beautiful "Liadem" for the "Queen City" I have informed them that they were expected, and would be warmly welcomed by their relatives & friends Mrs. C. says she will of course have to make

Mrs. Chapman a short visit. I presume Cousin Jane will be one of the Land Admirals to act as Pilot. — Jno. Fallis will leave on the "Dialem" in company with Mr. C. if he can possibly get through his business in time. — Eldridge Lawrence is here and making some arrangements to go into business at this place. he has also contracted to have beef packed at Hannibal in this State. — Charley informs me, that Mr. L. has made him a proposition to engage in business together, and he has or will accept, so I expect this will be his last trip on the boat. — Therefore you will say to Egbert to come around immediately in order to meet us here on return of boat, if he wishes to continue in the business. — And provided he has a situation otherwise, or any thing happens that he cannot be here in time, to write me stating particulars &c. So that I may know what course to pursue relative to filling his clerks berth. — You may expect to hear from me as often as opportunity & chances will admit. — Charley says he would make a visit to Cinti, if Egbert was here, I suppose "Kate" would be glad if he was here. — Please write on receipt of this, and address me at St. Louis. — My best love to all the family & please accept the same for yourself and our little daughter. — Your sincere and affectionate Husband

C. Gardner Lawrence

Mrs. C. G. Pearce,

Pebbles of 3

Mrs. L. A. Copp 3

Cincinnati

" " O.

S/B "Goddess of Liberty"
Thursday Evening Oct. 19. 1843

My Dear Wife,

I can inform you that we are at this time about 12 Miles above Cairo, on our downward trip to New Orleans, We are loaded with freight, have considerable many Cabin Passengers, and Deck with decks, say 200 in number, our trip in all, will be tolerable fair, much better than I anticipated when I wrote you last, which was forwarded by Mrs. Capps.

By the last Boats up from N. Orleans, accounts of the sickness remains about the same, but as we have had very heavy frosts in this Section of Country for the past week, we are in hopes it may have reached as far South as N. O. if so, it will immediately restore the health of the City. Should I learn on nearing the City, that there has not been any abatement of the Fever, I shall stop on the Coast, and take Dutee J. with me, he is on board and has nearly recovered from his late attack.

Give my love to all the family and accept a Husband best wishes for yourself & our little Daughter. — From Your Affectionate Husband

C. G. Pearce

Mrs. C. G. Pearce,

care Mrs. Hartwell & Williams

Cincinnati, O.

New Orleans Oct. 23rd 1843

My Dear Wife,

We arrived at Lafayette last evening about 8. o'clock, all well on board, and fair prospects for a general time of health, previous to our arrival the City was visited with 3 or 4 days of quite cool weather, which checked the fever very much, it is now quite warm again, but the health of the City is still improveing. — Our present trip down is the best we have made this season, after writing you from Cairo, we took more stock on board which together with our great number of deck Passengers made up out a good trip for the time. — The "Goddess" is advertised for St. Louis, which place we will depart for within 2 or 3 days, I think we will be able to get a load, on the balance of what we want, as there was money enough sent by us, to purchase about 100 Tons T. J. Salt, I am anxious to return with despatch, in order to get another good Passenger trip down from St. Louis, they will have them with a rush, after learning the improvement of the health of this City. — I did not receive any letter from you at Cairo on the trip down, but in case one

– should come for me within 2 or 3 days. to send it down to New Orleans. –

I was calculating to send this letter by the "Chieftain", but have been so busy that I did not get time to write before her departure, therefore I will put it on the "Parkaway" she will be the first boat for Cincinnati, and have been about the same time we do. –

26th We have had rain falling nearly all day, this evening it is still cloudy, but change quite cold, I think the Iron will last but a short time longer. –

I will send this letter by Peter Marchand who was steward with me last summer when we laid up at Cincinnati, and by some conveyance I send you ½ Box Fine Apples 1 Bunch Bananas, One Box Oranges & Lemons, and one Jar Oysters, which I hope will reach you in good time, and condition. –

I am as usual very anxious to see you and our darling little "Ann Maria", how often I think of you, and imagine how interesting our little pet will be, when she can say all the letters in the Alphabet, I hope you will instruct her, as soon as she is capable of understanding. – I hope your health is good, I shall be very much pleased to hear from you, but must give up the idea until I return to Cairo or St. Louis, We are all in good health on board. –

I presume your Loved had the pleasure of seeing Mrs. Copp ere this, I hope their visit will be a pleasant one, and that they will enjoy themselves among relations and friends at Cincinnati. I say to Cousin Jane that I have not forgotten her, I would purchase the boots she requested me to, but think in all probability she will be here before Spring & can make choice for herself.

I hope Mother has accomplished her object relative to removing the Negroes out of the House on the Alley, and is now at rest both in body and mind, than when I left home. I hope she may enjoy good health as usual, Take care of all those dear to me, Kiss Ann Maria for me, and say to her that Father will come home to see her by and by - if she inquires after Uncle Dutch, tell her, that he is on the boat with me. - I suppose Aunty has returned home before now,

Give my best compliments to all the family, and please accept a Husband's best love for yourself and our darling, with lots of Kisses.

From your sincere and affectionate Husband

P. S. - I have paid Peter for delivering the articles mentioned

C. Gardner Pierce

with Lot of Fruit

Mrs. C. G. Pearce,

P. Macland
S. B. Hathaway } Cincinnati O.

Cincinnati Oct 26th 1843

My Dear Husband

I have received yours of the 16th inst. by Mrs Copp and was [illegible] a week of your good health and safe arrival; the "Bride and Groom" arrived in the Lucern on last Sunday morning but I did not get sight of my letter until the next day. I told Mr Copp I felt very much like giving him a lecture, he made an apology by saying Anna had the letter in her possession which was in her trunk and she could not get at her trunk through the day; but I have an idea they were both thinking of something of more importance to them than my letter; we had the pleasure of their company and a few friends of our old acquaintance to tea last evening, we had quite a sociable, pleasent time — Anna is very anxious to have us move to St Louis I gave her reason to believe that would be my future home; — Before I received your letter I was hoping you would make a trip to Cincinnati with the Boat and felt troubled to hear of your going to N Orleans; I have had many anxious moments since I heard of your going with the Boat; it is my prayer and earnest desire that you may be guarded and preserved by an all "Wise Providence" —

I have just perused your letter from Cairo, it was very acceptable but a great deal too short; you did not state wether you had received my letter at Cairo — we were surprised that you had taken Dutie with

you, it is a great change of climate for him from extreme cold to a warm climate; I was sorry to hear of his sickness, should he remain sick Mother says you had better send him home, we will endeavor to take good care of him and restore him to health — —

I wish you would come here soon with the boat I feel now as though I must go with you the first trip you make to Cincinnati, therefore I will be brisk with my sewing so that no obstacle of that kind shall prevent me enjoying your society

The Hon John Quincy Adams is expected next week The Ladies grand Tea party is near at hand and I suppose this honorable gentleman will make a speech for them; how much I wish you could be here I think I could engage in the pleasures of the evening if you were here to enjoy them with them, but as it is I do not anticipate much pleasure; there is great dissatisfaction felt at having the Tea party at Lines garden, many will not attend who would if it was in some other place; there is a meeting this afternoon to ascertain if there are provisions sufficient for 4 or 5000; the Ladies begin to feel alarmed fearing they will not have enough to eat; the tickets are 50 cts; ~~since great~~ I hope it will not prove a failure as great exertions have been made to have a splendid Party; — — I have feasted on oysters for a few days, I have had scarcely any appetite for several days and nothing tasted good to me, at last I thought if I could get some oysters I should feel satisfied, I got a can of pickled Baltimore oysters and enjoyed them while

they lasted; I have never cared so much for them any season as I have this, when you can send me some conveniently they will be very acceptable; it is the only thing I have had a desire for and they appear to reach the right spot; I have been quite unwell with a cold and have rested but little at night as I coughed incessently, I feared it would injure me; my breast and stomach were very sore, Mother spoke to the Dr he proscribed some simple medicine and last night I rested better than I have for a week; Ann Maria has not entirely recovered from her cold, she coughs very haarse and we have thought she was taking the whooping-cough; there has been great changes in the weather and it is so difficult to keep her in the house, the moment the doors are open she is out of sight before we know it; she asked Mr Capp many questions about her Papa, she told him the name of your Boat which he thought was very smart for a long name and as much as an older person could speak; she is an endearing little creature and learns something new every day, you must not stay from her too long; she will be 2 years old next Wednesday, we will have to celebrate the day— Egbert has not come home and there is no knowing when he will be here, we have not heard from him since you left but are daily looking for him; as he had not anything to hurry him home he may be waiting to come in company with Mr Adams; I will deliver your message to him as soon as he arrives; Nancy has left the House and in a very peaceable manner, there are many applicants but Mother is in no hurry until it is repaired; if Dutee is sick you had best send him around where he will be taken care of—

it is almost dark and I want to send my letter to the office to night; my dear I think of you constantly and am often very unhappy when I reflect how we are separated I still hope the time is near at hand when we shall enjoy each-others society -- Mother and Cousin desire to be remembered to you, a kiss as usual from your little Daughter and accept much love from your sincere and affectionate

Wife J. Ann. Peares

Capt C. G. Peares
Care of W. H. Turner & Co
St Louis
Mo

Cincinnati Oct 31 1843

My Dear Husband

I embrace this favorable opportunity to address a few lines to my "absent companion" whom I so much desire to see; what a joyful heart I should possess if I were daily and hourly expecting your arrival home, I sometimes get in a reverie and fancy we are together, and at other times I flatter myself you will be home in a few days; I awake as it were from a dream and picture the dark side that we may be separated months, my heart responds in the negative that cannot be; I will lay a plan how you can do, if your business should not justify you coming with the Boat and you have a competent person to leave your affairs with I think you can leave business for a few days; I hope I am not unreasonable for oh dear husband I cannot bear the thought of being separated from you for such a length of time; I know it is equally as painful to your feelings and that you are not absent from those who are dear to you from pleasure but from a sense of duty; I am often animated and entivened with the idea of soon seeing you and I do hope I may shortly realize that which I am at present anticipating; I have been looking by every boat from N Orleans for a letter thinking you would write from some point below

Cairo ; I wrote to you last week and directed to St Louis which will meet you there ; I have been very busy braiding a chain for my dear one which I expect to send by Mr Capps who departs this afternoon on the beautiful Bowena ; when the Bride returns to St Louis she will be able to introduce the Cincinnati fashions as A. has bought a velvet bonnet and black satin cardinal ; I have purchased a velvet bonnet similar to Anna's only a much prettier one according to my views ; I did not expect to get one this winter thinking I should go out but seldom ; but on looking at my straw bonnet it was too thin to make use of for winter weather — Cousin John and Aunty arrived on Saturday also William and his Wife from Wheeling and on yesterday commenced housekeeping ; John leaves to day for N York —

we are anxiously looking for Egbert and know not what detains him ; Emeline is in very poor health she looks like a shadow, Dr Woodward says she will never be a healthy woman, she is not confined at anything but takes her ease and walks out daily : — —

do you keep in mind that to morrow is the 1st of November our "little Daughter" is 2 years old, indeed I can scarcely realize that I am the Mother of the dear child but more surprizing events are still to come to pass ; she talks a great deal about her Papa and never forgets Uncle Dutee I forgot to tell you that she knew Aunty and Cousin John which very much surprized us, she had not heard them mentioned but as soon as she saw them called each by name it is a strong evidence of her great memory ; she says she lives on Main St next door to Mr Platts Evens —

Cousin John says Dutee looked very unwell, if he has the chills it is not likely he will be better very soon, I hope you will send him home this trip, a steamboat is no place for an invalid, tell him he had better come home and stay until he recovers and then if he wishes return to the Boat.

my friends tell me I begin to look quite interesting my health is improving and I should feel quite smart but it is such an effort for me to move around and after walking I suffer very much, I cannot account for the feeling; Cousin told Anna I was going to have a Boy, Mr Copp has heard all about it ere this as his Wife has already began to initiate him into the arts and sciences — I must hasten, do you think of coming soon with the Boat, I may take a notion to go with you if you think best; I should like to finish the page but have not time I shall be looking for a letter from Cairo as you come up, and one from St Louis; remember us to Charles George and Dutee, tell Dutee I will take good care of him each one of the family desire to be affectionately remembered to you, many kisses from your interesting little Daughters and last though not least a kiss and much love from your sincere and affectionate Wife

L. Ann. Pearce

Capt. C. G. Pearce,

St. Louis

Mo

Politeness of

Mrs S. H. Capps

Steamer Goddess of Liberty
50 Miles below Cairo Nov. 3. 1843. 3

My Dear Wife,

I can inform you that your
esteemed favor of the 15th ult. was rec'd yesterday
and contents have been thoroughly perused,
The letter instead of being left at Cairo as
directed, was taken on to Memphis, I presume
by the boat it was ~~left~~ put on at Cinti,
and no doubt was there as I passed down,
I accidentally found it at Cash, on landing
at Memphis yesterday, I enquired if they had
seen any letter to my address, and was informed
by the keeper of the Wharf Boat that he had
not, but being not altogether satisfied I
commenced looking over the files of old
letters which were sticking up in the Office
and behold in the last file which was my
last hope at that point, I found a letter
from my dear Wife, which I do assure you
was thankfully rec'd, — I am happy to learn by
it, that your health had improved, and that
Ann Maria was some better, and the balance
of the family enjoying a usual degree of
health, I am anxious to hear from you on
my arrival at St. Louis, and hope to hear
that our darling babe has fully recovered.
I can with great pleasure inform you that
we are all well on board, and have been
during the trip, We had quite cold weather just

- before leaving Nor Orleans, with which frosts
in many parts of the State, which has an
soon with put and end to the Yellow Fever
the ravages of Saturday the day we left, invites
all Citizens, and others, who may want to visit
the great tropical City, to return in safety
from all infections, and watering places generally.
We have a full load which consists principally of Salt purchased on boats account,
I hope we may make good freight on it,
besides we have about 150 Mormans on
board, bound for the City of Nauvoo (Ills.)
I sent you some circulars & a letter by the
Cook of the "Hackaway" you will no doubt
receive them before this come to hand, as she
is some hours ahead of us, but I write
again knowing that you are always pleased
to hear from me, and to comply with your
request of writing you often, affords me the
greatest happiness. In your last letter you
make strong appeals to have me at as
early a period as possible, to quit the River
and enjoy each others Society, this means
would be my greatest source of happiness, if
I could dispense with the business I am engaged
in at present, without loss, and enter into
some business on Shore for a livelihood, that
would afford a good subsistance for myself
and little family. As well as the strong appeal
which I have just detailed, Your advice and kindly

throughout the letter, is very instructive and interesting to me, I am happy when I reflect that I have such a wife, who can communicate in words, feelings of sentiment, susceptible of entering my very heart. =

Relative to business, my object is industry, and whatever I may follow for a livelihood will be for gain if it can be done on fair business transactions, It is gratifying to me to know that I am making something, my own inclination and duty towards my family require that I should possess such feelings, yet on the other hand I dont think I am miserly or laboring for any thing unnecessary, for my feelings are, that when the proper occasion demands it, I can dispense as freely as received. = I often think of you, and our dear little daughter, and should be most happy to participate if I could see you to night,

My dear wife, I hope you will endeavor to bear my absence, with as much fortitude as possible, for the good of all things, I shall endeavor to come to Cuba, with the "Goddess" or without her, to see you before many Months,

I will close hoping this may soon reach you, and find you all in health, and that I may hear from you at St Louis. — Give my compliments to all the family, and please accept a Husbands best love for yourself & our little daughter, — Your Loving and Affectionate Husband

C. Gardner Pearce

Mrs. C. G. Pearce,

care of Wm. Hartwell & Atkins

Cincinnati, O.

Saint Louis Nov 6th 1843

My Dear Wife,

Your esteemed favors of the 26th and 31st ult. are at hand and contents have been thoroughly perused, I am highly pleased to hear from you so often, and equally as much gratified to learn that you are all in the enjoyment of good health — We arrived here yesterday about 12. Oclock. M — have discharged the principal part of our cargo, and are loading again for New Orleans, and think our prospect for a trip down, is quite as good as ~~it was~~ our last trip down, I expect to leave again for New Orleans on Wednesday the 8th inst. — I called at Mr. Chappell's a few minutes this evening, found them all well, congratulated Mr. & Mrs. Capp on their safe return home, although they narrowly escaped a serious accident which occured on the "Kowna" the boat on which they came, she fired a salute gun as she was nearing St. Louis, which burst and instantly killed two persons, and the life of a third is despaired of. Mr Capp & Lady with many others of the passengers were on the hurricane deck at the time of the explosion, and some of the fragments of the gun came very near them, cutting the deck wherever it struck them, I have always been opposed to carrying, or making

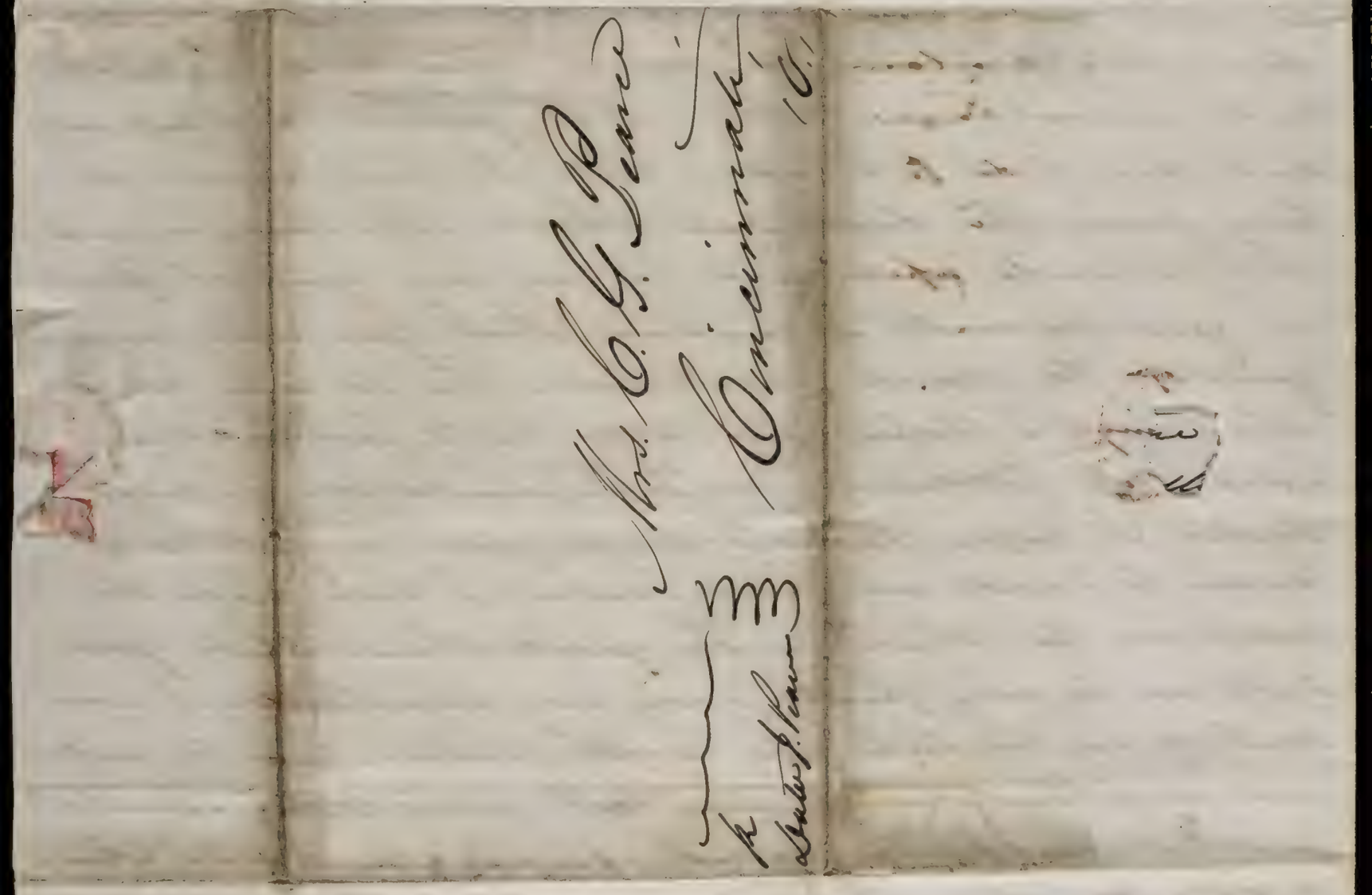
– use of a gun on board of any boat that I have been concerned in, to be used as a salute, and managed by the hands who know but little about the nature and danger of such things, I look upon the toleration of them now, as a still greater piece of folly than heretofore. –

We are all in good health except Dalie he is quite unwell with the Fever and Ague, I have concluded to send him home as he is not able to do any thing about the Boat, he will take passage on the "Narragansett" as Wm. F. Fallon is Pilot on her, You will please keep him in order in regard to being absent from the house &c. And if he should recover from his illness soon I am desirous that he should attend School this Winter if there is any suitable place where he can attend for so short a period, I expect the common schools teach branches higher than he has studied, if Mother will give a little attention to getting him in some proper place, or Egbert should he be in the City, it will confer a great favor. – As Egbert has not arrived, and I have not heard any thing from him, Charley will of course go down with me again, he and Mr Lawrence have not entered into any positive arrangement, Charley says he is waiting to hear, or get the approval of Mr. Lawrence Son, of Cinta, relative to such a step, and with it, all will be right. –

I would like very much to be in Cinta on the 9th inst. the celebration will no doubt be a grand one, but as my business has called me a different direction, I shall not have the pleasure of waiting upon you on the occasion, although I hope you will be able to go and enjoy yourselfs. — Your letters are full of anxiety, and strong appeals for my return home, I had not room to give answer to all your items, they contain so much matter of interest and importance to me, that I perused and reperused and am led to wonder how I can remain so long from the dear one whose affections is entirely placed upon me, it is my greatest fear in your present situation that you will concern yourself to much about me, this as well as many other things I hope you will have fortitude to throw over if possible. — You mentioned as raisd Oysters. I hope those I sent you in Jar, will come to hand in good order, I will send the next in the shell. — The guard chain which you sent me is very pretty, and very acceptable, I was thinking on the trip up about writing you to meet me, and on opening your last letter to my astonishment found it indefinitely coiled up. — I cannot state when I will be able to come home, but as you are ready to take a trip, it will be a great inducement for me to take the "Gaddup" to Cinta, you may rely on seeing me as soon as business will admit. — If you feel able I should be pleased to hear you write on rect. of this + dont to Cairo + a few days after write + dont to St. Louis If we return here it will be about the 25. to 28 inst. —

I cannot close without saying something to our little daughter. tell her that Father wants to see her My dear I was never more anxious to see your dear face at the present time, but to explain my feelings more fully will not do any good.— Remember me to all the family. and please accept my best love and wishes for yourself and our little daughter.

Your loving affectionate Husband. C. G. Pearce



Steamer Goddess of Liberty
30 Miles above Cairo Nov. 9/43.

My dear Wife,

Again with pleasure, I take up my pen to inform you that the "Goddess" has proceeded thus far on her downward trip in safety, we are detained at the present time by fog, and have had some other little detention on the way by one of the Engines, otherwise we would have reached Cairo ere this. = Our trip is about fair, not altogether as good as I expected when I wrote you last. = We understood to day by the Steamer "Belle Air" that the Steamer "Express Mail" was sunk at the Grand Chain on the Ohio, about 30 Miles above Cairo, I am not aware of the amount of damage. = Just before Dutee left St. Louis, I went out and purchased some articles of clothing for him, until then, I was not aware of his feeble situation, in stirring about I found him very weak, and sent immediately for Doct. White, but he only arrived just as the "Management" was putting out. Previously I had furnished him with what Medicine I thought he would stand in need of. The chills which he is subject to, seem to be of the dumb nature, should he not be any better on his arrival at Cincinnati, I think it would be well

to procure medical aids, — Charles gave him a letter to Doct. Ray, whose school I wish him to attend, as soon as his health will admit, I gave him Twenty Dollars for the purpose of purchasing Books &c, should he stand in need of more funds, for necessary articles, you will please advance him, out of your own, or Mothers funds, and I will replace the same. —

We wonder what has become of Egbert Charles says he is very much disappointed because he did not meet us in St. Louis as he has other arrangements to make on shore, say to Egbert as I requested before for him to meet us at Cairo as we return, should he wish to fill the situation,

I am glad to hear that Mother succeeded in gaining possession of the House on the alley, without any further difficulty. —

My dear, I feel quite low spirited, more so than I have since I left you, I am thinking about making this trip, and one more in this trade, and then come to Civ, and it is possible that I may come sooner, my will is good to come immediately, but I find that I can do my own business better than any one can for me, therefore I am in duty bound to attend to it personally,

You no doubt wish me a speedy return, and in every respect, my feelings fully coincide with yours, but I cannot fulfil the dictates of my mind,

Yesterday Seven Boats including the "Goddess" left for New Orleans, we left about six hours after them all, and now we are ahead of them of them, and want to beat them all to N.O.

I feel any anxious to see our little darling and her dear Mother. I can imagine how interesting Ann Maria grows, till her Father will come home to see her by and by, —

I will recollect all the anniversaries that have recently passed, which are of interest to us, and to day is the day I hope long to be remembered and cherished by the Citizens: nations, that of the laying of the corner stone of the Cincinnati Observatory, and an Oration on the occasion by the Hon. Jno. Q. Adams.

I hope Mother enjoys herself, with her little Grand daughter, and other matters of interest to her. — Say to Cousin Jane, that I hope she will select Some one, who she can rely on for support during the icy season, to keep her from slipping in the streets. — I hope your health will continue good, — write as I requested in my last. — I will write you often. —

May this find you all in good health and make you with dispatch. With my best compliments to all the family, and please accept my best love for yourself and our little daughter with plenty of kisses.

From Your Sincere and Affectionate Husband

C. Gardner Perry

Cairo Illo
Nov. 14. 1843

25

Mrs. C. G. Pearce,
care Msp. Hartwell & Atkinson
Cincinnati
O.

Cincinnati Nov 16th 1843

My Dear Husband

Your 3 last letters are before me and each one has been most attentively perused every day which is a very pleasant way to spend intervals of time; in the first place I must express feelings of gratitude that you have been so highly favored in the enjoyment of health, although in the midst of sickness and death, our "Heavenly Parent" has had a watchful and preserving care over you, and I am sensible that a feeling of gratitude is not wanting within your breast for his manifold goodness and mercy to you; I had many fears for your health during the last trip and upon receiving your last epistle I was relieved and happy to hear that "all was well"; as the season is so far advanced I think I have but little to fear from sickness, but still you must not be imprudent for there may be an outbreak of the Fever and you might possibly take it at a time when you the least expected it — my dear husband I cannot half express my desire and anxiety to see you — I feel at this moment that if I could see you it would be the happiest moment of my life and from occasions I am looking forward to the time when we shall meet, it is my food by day and night; I dream every night of being with you but at the

dream of day I awake and am sensible it was
but a pleasant dream; I was much gratified
to read in one of your letters that you would
come home erelong with or without the Boat—
but I hope your business will justify your bringing
the "Goddess" shortly; I have no doubt but my health
would be much improved if I could take a trip with
you and have a change of air and scene ———
I have had another severe attack with a cold and
coughing, I think it ~~is~~ has been the most tedious
cold I have ever experienced for it is near 3 weeks
since I have breathed fresh air; the Dr has been
attending me and talked very serious ~~to me~~ telling
me that when I got over this cold if I was not more
careful through the winter it would result in a very
serious manner; I felt all that he said and as
I suffer very much with a cold in my situation
I am determined to pay more regard to my health
in future; I was bled on Monday for fulness of
blood in my head and to relieve my chest in coughing,
I think my whole system feels some good effects
from it although I am very weak from loss of blood
and at this time I am under the operation of medicine
for my bowels, in a short time I shall be regulated
and feel altogether better; you can tell Mrs Copp I
have been confined to the house ever since the afternoon
she left Cincinnati for it was at that time that I
took this cold; it was quite a pleasant afternoon and
was thought the walk to the boat would be good exercise
for me, we accompanied them to the Rowena and to

Mr Capps great disappointment his baggage had not arrived having left it in the care of a friend who was to accompany them to St Louis, the Boat was ready to leave and they were obliged to come off the boat and wait for their friend, about a dozen of us stood on the wharf an hour where the wind had free access to us and at last this gentleman made his appearance, they were off in a few moments; I impute my sickness to that circumstance and I hope henceforth to possess more wisdom ----
I was not able to attend the grand Tea Party and it was fortunate for me that I remained at home, there was such a multitude of people that many were glad to make their escape for fear they would be crushed to death; Mother and Cousin were on the committee at the table and after making necessary preparations and dressing to the best advantage returned home at an early hour very thankful to get out of the crowd. You will no doubt see the Cincinnati papers stating at the particulars of Mr Adams reception and the proceedings at the Tea Party—
we feel great anxiety for Egbert, week after week passes and we receive no intelligence from him, I have thought he might have been taken sick on his way home, if he is in health his silence is unpardonable--- Dutee arrived on Sabbath morning and it is very evident that his health has improved in the short time he has been at home, he thinks he will be able to commence school next week, he showed me a letter of introduction to Dr Ray of the Woodward

Cargo oysters but half spoiled, I eat a few of them made into soup the other articles were in good order; since I have been so unwell I have craved no kind of food but oysters; yesterday I heard there was some fine ones in the city and bought some in the shell which I feast on — Mrs Geluline Hunt has a young daughter and Mrs Abby Poole presented her husband with Twins little boys — the house in the alley is rented to two quiet families and first rate pay; I cannot close without saying a word relative to Mrs Manfort, I heard she went around on the Goddess from Cin and there was some very disgraceful conduct between her (and must I say it, her Father); she is a bad woman and I do hope you will not allow her to go

Capt C. G. Pearce
Care of Wm C. Truman & Co
St Louis
Mo

1543

for my bowels, in a short time I shall be regulated and feel altogether better; you can tell Mrs Capp I have been confined to the house ever since the afternoon she left Cincinnati for it was at that time that I took this cold; it was quite a pleasant afternoon and it was thought the walk to the boat would be good exercise for me, we accompanied them to the Bowena and to

Louisville March 5th/44

My Dear Wife,

We arrived here about daylight all safe, nothing here of any consequence to refinish our poor trip— We shall leave for St Louis at 9 o'clock this morning,- and think by going ahead we may get a good trip back from St Louis, ab that is our only hope at present—

I hope you will be very careful and not take any more cold, you had better continue to take such drops as Doct. W. may recommend for your cough, — I shall be as expeditious as possible in making the trip, I think you may look for about the 15th inst, —

My love to all the family, and a kiss for yourself and our little daughter, —

Yours Sincere & Affectionate Husband

C. G. Pearce

Mrs. C. G. Peace.

care Capt. S. Atkinson

Capt. Atkinson will know your immediately

Concentrate

St. Louis Apl 29th 1844

My Dear Wife,

We arrived here last evening about 8. o'Clock P. M. all well, our trip was somewhat longer than usual, owing in part, to way Lassing, and the strong current in the Mississippi River, which is rising very rapidly, say 3 feet in 24 hours. — Our trip to this place was very fair, perhaps quite as well as we could have done, to remain longer, our principal object in hasting away from Cincinnati, was to get clear of the crowd of Boats, and to my astonishment I find a worse and longer number here bound for Cincinnati, several of which are from N. Orleans and other places, — I expect to have to remain here several days before I can get a trip that will justify me in starting, You will therefore, not look for me before Sunday or Monday, which I cannot say.

The Chappell family are all well, Kate came up with us from Cairo, where she has been enjoying herself at the Cairo Springs for a Month past. it is not impo-

sible but some other attraction might have drawn her attention, as it is understood that Samuel young Professional gentleman residing at Cairo, enjoy the State of Single blessedness. —

On my last trip to Cincinnati a young man from Iowa, near whose my Brother resides, informed me that he was very well acquainted with one of his affectionate wife, and the fair, had a little daughter about three months old, I forgot to mention it to you when I was home, you may imagine how enjoyed I must be to forget a thing of this kind, the family are all well except my Brother who hurt his foot or ancle in hauling wood on an Ox sled, as my informant saith. —

My best love to you, and our double lies, or darling little daughters, kiss them for me, also my remembrance to all the family. —

From Your Ancon and affet, Husband

C. L. Walker

Mrs. C. G. Tower,

care Capt. Jno Atherton

Capt A. will please forward

Cincinnati, O.

Saint Louis June 24th 1844

My Dear Wife,

I can inform you that we arrived here yesterday about Midday in Safety, We had great difficulty in getting Round the last 70 or 80 Miles, but think our difficulties nothing, compared with the privations and Sufferings of those who have inhabited the Mississippi and Missouri Valleys, — I cannot begin to picture, or discribe to you, the Great Affliction and loss of life that this present flood of Water has caused, The River at this point has attained a height 9 or Ten feet higher, than was ever known by the oldest inhabitants, The low lands on the Missouri and Mississippi are inundated on an average of from 10 to 20 feet and any Sandy any spots of Earth left Visible except the Bluffs, Log Cabins and fences as well as wood, has nearly all been Swept away by the flood, We frequently saw Houses floating down the current of the Mississippi at a frightful rate, Some of which, with persons about them, probably the original occupants, — We also saw, and Rescued a number of families with their Furniture, Horses, Cattle, Hogs &c. &c. which had concentrated on the last spot of dry land within 6 or 8 Miles on the Illinois side —

where we found them, on reaching them their cry was for help, for Mercy sake us, on landing I found the women and Children crying, one lady said she had a Son somewhere in the bottom land about 10 Years of age, that went in pursuit of Stock and had been out several days, whether he had succeeded in getting back to the bluffs, or had drowned, or perished from hunger, was uncertain. — We took the unfortunate Sufferers several Miles up the River, and landed them on the Missouri side, at the foot of the bluffs, our boat at the time of crossing the River answered somewhat the discription of Noah's Ark, — At many places where the inhabitants had fled to the bluffs, we saw cattle standing in herds up to their mid-sides in water, which of course would perish in a short time, Hogs endeavouring to cling to logs or any kind of floating substance, and frequently saw herds swimming the River and also Deer in search of land, Coons and Squirrels on the Tree Tops, in short every thing in disorder and distress. — The Major of the City engaged boats to relieve the sufferers between him and the mouth of the Missouri, and I have understood that individuals volunteered their services also. — Illinois Town opposite him is entirely inundated, and the inhabitants fled. —

We also hear of great distruction on the Missouri River, by loss of Produce, Hay Tobacco, Salt &c, at the different Towns on the River where the flood has inundated them, — I think I make a safe calculation, to say that the present overflow will retard the growth & population of the County at least ten years. — We think the River has nearly attained its height at this point, as report informs us, that it is receding in some of the Rivers above. —

I have not rec'd any letter, or information from our relations above, the present high water has not materially injured them, Capt Atchison of the Steam "Arkansaw" informed me, that the late Hurricane which passed over my Brother's place, did great damage to the Farm by destroying the Timber &c. &c. he said the damage was estimated at least to be $1000.

Yesterday afternoon I called at Mr Chappell's but saw only Mrs. Copp, she is about home and looks tolerable well, she informed me that the family were in tolerable health only Mrs Alexander and some others of the family complaining. — I hope Ann Maria & Sister have received 'em this. — Our chance for a trip back, looks rather gloomy, as there is little or no freight, and Passengers very scarce. — You may look for me about Sunday or Monday.

My love to all. From Your affectionate Husband.

C. Gardner Eaton

4

Capt. A. will please send up to the House immediately on receipt.

Mrs. C. G. Pearce,

care Capt. Ira Atkins

per Bro. O'Sullivan

Cincinnati, O.

Louisville May 12th 1848

My Dear Wife,

I can inform you that we cross'd the Falls yesterday about 1, O'Clk in Safety, which affords me considerable gratification — We shall leave here this evening with the expectation of getting the balance of our Cargo on the way down at diffrent points — I miss the Society of you & our little ones very much & expect to think more of our absence from each other,

Enclosed I send you Twenty Dollars,

My best respects to all & my best love to you & our little ones,

From Your affectionate Husband

C. G. Pearce

P. S. — Egbert came down with us, and I dont known but he will continue on down, if he should not, I suppose he will return from here to Cincinnati

Mrs. C. G. Pearce,

Next door below P. Lens on Main St.

Cincinnati,

O

Memphis May 18th 1848

My Dear Wife,

We are coming near Memphis and getting along very well, after laying on a Sand Bar at the Sisters in the Ohio nearly three days. — We should have made a very fair trip down, had we not have met with the misfortune to get aground, we were obliged to ship nearly half of our freight on the "Champion" and after getting off, have picked up something, we are ahead of the C. Egbert sent on her, to attend to the delivery of our freight should she beat us down, to New Orleans. — I feel quite homesick and often think of you and our little ones, This is the Sabbath day, and I miss my little Bible which I supposed you omitted putting in with my clothes, however I found another which answers in its place, Should any letters come for me, you will please remail them to Louisville, as I am not positive of coming home the first trip, Write me about the 25th inst. and direct to care Capt. C. Basham Louisville My best respects to all the family & my best love to you and our little ones,

Your affectionate Husband

C. G. Pearce

Mrs. C. G. Pearce,
care G. F. Thomas Esq.
Cincinnati, O.

Paducah May 30th 1848

My Dear Wife,

I have only time to write a few lines, We arrived here this morning and find the water so low above, that we have concluded to go to St. Louis to get a trip for New Orleans, Mr Thordunn put a beautiful Lamanque Tea Rose on board of us, in N. Orleans which he presented to you, The "China" a small boat which we were compelled to put our passengers on, will not go farther than Louisville, Therefore I will keep your Rose on board, and try to send it from St. Louis on some boat bound for Cincinnati. I have Oranges also, and will send them from St. Louis, if they appear to be in good condition.

We had a very fair trip up and would have done well, if we could have proceeded through to Louisville. I will send you Money from St. Louis — If you think proper to go into the Country on account of the Children's health, I wish you to make such arrangements whenever you can to best accommodate, — I cannot say when you may look for me home, therefore I wish you to write me at Cairo, and send any thing that may come for me to that place, Send either by Boat or Mail. — I had a slight Chill yesterday which was followed by a severe fever, to day I feel quite smart, my late illness was brought on by exposure from getting wet & going without rest

I am anxious to hear from you, and our little ones, I hope you and all in good health, I hardly know how to appreciate the worth of my little family until I am separated from them, Remember me to all the family, and accept my best love for yourself and our little ones

From Your affectionate Husband

C. G. Penick

Mrs. C. G. Pearce

Cincinnati,

O.,

St. Louis June 2d. 1845

My Dear Wife,

The Steam "North-America" will leave soon, I have been so unwell to day with a return of Chill & Fever that I did not feel able to write until now. We are taking in freight for N. Orleans and I expect will be laden so as to leave here on Wednesday 4th inst. — I have seen Mr Alexander & Mr Chappell they inform me that their families are all in good health. — Alex. told me that Aunt Sarah had arrived, and that she called on you previous to leaving Cincinnati, and informed him that you were all well, I have not called on the Chappell family if I feel well enough I may do so previous to my departure from this City. I will send you Ten Roll by N. America & pay one of the boys to take it up to you — I will send two Letters for Geo B. Pearce which I suppose are from his Brother in Galena Ills. — Enclosed I send you Forty Dollars. — I hope this may find you all in good health. Remember me to Mother & all the family, and accept my best love for yourself and our little ones

From your affectionate Husband

C. G. Pearce

The Oranges were decaying so fast that I concluded not to send them

You can exchange the N.C.
Notes at any time for Cincinnati
funds, when I left it was worth
a premium —

C. J. P —

Enclosed $40

Mrs. C. G. Peace
next door below P. Evans Main St.

Ky
N. America

Cincinnati.
O.

Steamr Cincinnati June 5/48

My Dear Wife,

We are again on our downward trip bound for New Orleans, with full Cargo, and will arrive at Cairo to-day about 12. O'Clock. M- I escaped having my regular chill yesterday, and consequently feel quite smart, I took pills which I think will break them altogether, Therefore I expect to regain my strength in a few days, = Cousin George arrived in St. Louis the next morning after I wrote you per. "W. America", and to my great satisfaction, handed me a precious document from you, having date of the 23d ult. - I have perused it, and received it, and am pleased to learn by it that you were all in good health. - The Evening before leaving St Louis I called up to Mr Chapplis found them all well, saw Miss Sarah R. She informed me that she was at the House to see you previous to her leaving Cincinnati, and that you were all well, found you in the midst of House cleaning as you stated in your letter. - I have no general news to write you, as I was very quiet while in St. Louis.

1111

Cousin George informed me that he saw Egbert & Charles at Smithland on their way to Cincinnati, — You can advise Charley that I have sold the Bill of Oranges in St. Louis, which I purchased for him & myself for the purpose of giving away in Cincinnati, they were decaying and would not keep long enough to bear transportation, I left a bill at Cairo for Charley as I went up, but will not know whether he received it or not, until I arrive there. —

At New Orleans, I expect we will advertise again for Louisville, in hopes of finding water enough by the time we get up to let us up, But we may be again disputed a visit may not come, therefore you must not look or expect me, without considerable of a visit at Cincinnati, If you think necessary to go to the County on account of the Children, You will make the best selection you can find, as I have previously advised you. — Bless the dear Children how I want to see them, and no less their dear Mother. — Please write and direct to care N. Falls, Cairo Ills, — Remember me affectionately to Mother & Cousin and all other members of the family. — and accept my best love for yourself and our little daughters, —

Your Sincere and Affectionate Husband

C. G. Pearce

My Dear Husband

My Dear Husband

My Dear Husband

Mrs. U. S. Grant

care Brig. Gen. Rawlins

Cincinnati

O.

Cairo June 19th 1848

My Dear Wife,

We arrived yesterday morning from N. Orleans, and having the Ohio to the low, we unshipped our Passengers from this place, and are loading again for N. Orleans, — We were full of Passengers up, and will get a fair trip of freight down. — I am disappointed in not receiving a letter from you on my arrival at this place; the only letter I have received from you, was the one you sent by Cousin George. — Mr Scowden my Engineer leaves us here, and will return to Cincinnati, I send you by him, one Box fruit, containg Oranges, Pine-apples, and a few lemons, I suppose the fruit will decay considerable before you receive it, — I am very anxious to see you, and our darling infants and would leave on a tour home, if I could find any person to take charge of the "Cincinnati" that would in my estimation fully represent me, — When I shall be able to leave I cannot at present say. — I conjecture that you

are probably absent from the city
is the reason that I have not rec'd
a letter from you. Should I receive
one from you, I will write you again
from this place or Memphis.

My health is pretty good, I have fully
shaken off the Chills, and trust that
I shall not have a relapse again soon.
I hope this may soon reach you, and
find you all in good health.

I will remit you again on my next
trip. Should you stand in need of funds
in the mean time, you can borrow from
Mother. — I hope you will make preparation
and go to the County, if you think the
Children require it. — My last remittance
to you, I think was by the "North America"
I hope you rec'd it in due time.

Should you or the Children be seriously
ill, you will please inform me by letter to this
place, and I will endeavor to come home.

Remember my best compliments to Mother
& Cousin, and accept my best love for
yourself and our darlings.

From your Sincere and Affectionate Husband
C. G. Pearce

Please write, and direct to Cairo
care W. Fales.

Since writing my letter I sent Dallie to the Post-Office in this place, and to my surprise, and great satisfaction, he returned with a precious document from you, on opening it, I found it to be written on the 3d & 4th inst. — It was truly a long and interesting letter, — I was sorry to learn by it, that our dear babes were not in good health, — But hope they will soon recover. I feel quite rejoiced since the receipt of your letter, and hope soon to get another from the one I truly love, and whose worth I scarcely know how to [illegible] fearing I might not give virtue its full reward. — You requested me to inform you about Charley & Egbert, — I left them in N. Orleans on my first trip, Charley was not ready to leave, and they were to take passage up on the "Champion" which I suppose they did, as I have since learned that Charley returned to N.O. on the "C." as Commander of the "C." I did not learn whether Egbert remained on the "C." or had returned home, — After leaving Cincinnati I made a change in the Clerkship of the Boat mainly to have some disinterested person to fully satisfy the balance of owners, as the Boat was going away from home, — If you should have a good chance to send me 2 pro. Draws, you may send them to Cairo, care W. Fall, Mem. City.

One Box Fruit

Mrs. C. G. Pearce

next door below P. Evans, Main St.

Cincinnati,

O.

per

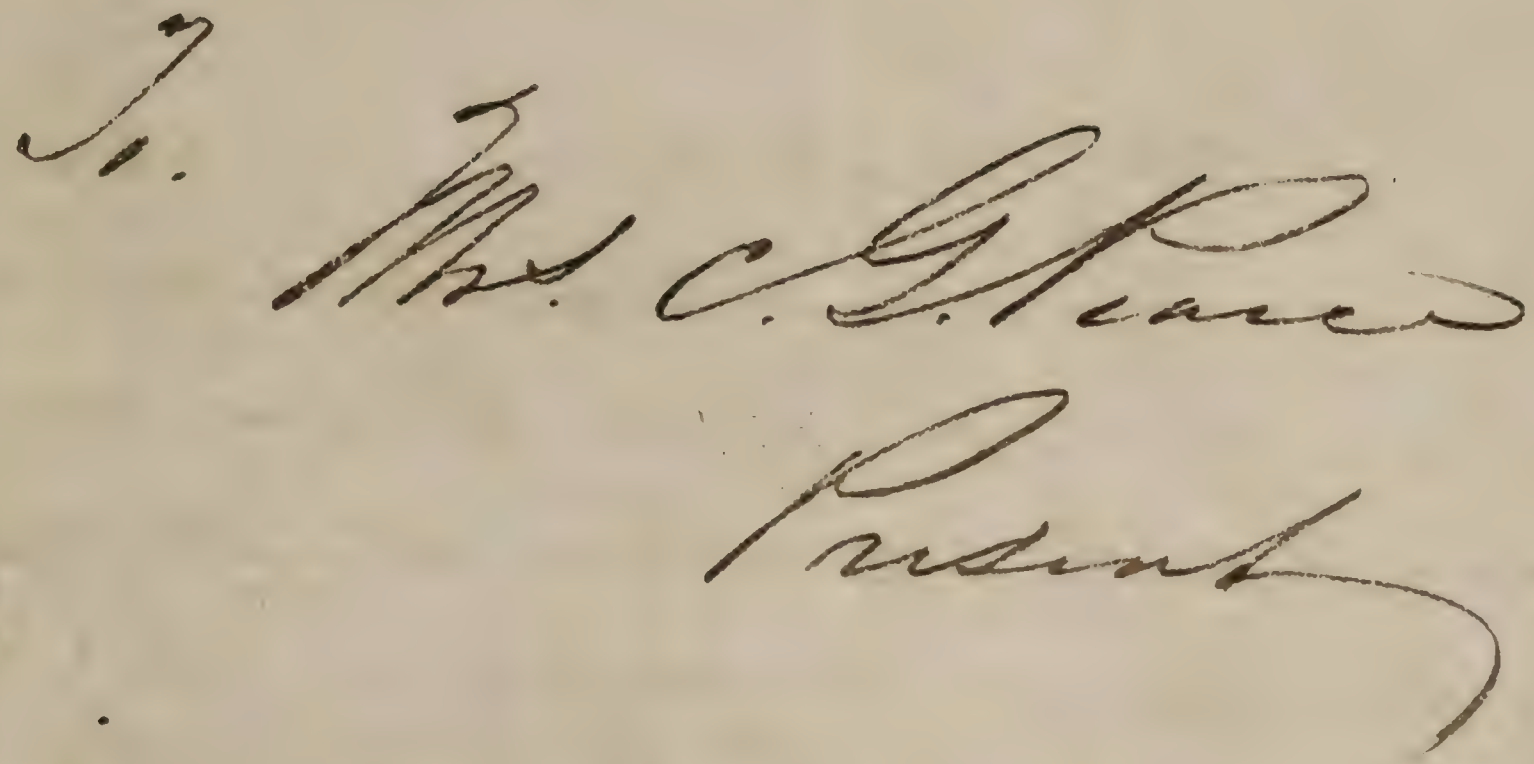
Mr Scudder

List of Fruit &c. which I send
you by Mr Chapman.

To say.

about 100 Oranges
" 25 Lemons
6 Cocanuts
3 Pine Apples
1 bunch Bananas
2 Jars Oysters

Myself & Mr Chapman purchased
our Fruit equally & jointly together,
the above is a list of my un-
=divided half, which is at present
bound and in good order. — Mr C.
agrees to divide what may be bound
when he arrives in Cincinnati, — C. G. P —



Louisville July 5th 1845

My Dear Wife,

I arrived here last evening about 12 o'clock. — I found the "Champion" lying here, and I suppose she will leave here to day for N. Orleans, I was just in time yesterday to get on board the Mail Boat. — We are getting freight to day, during my absence there was but little doing, consequently the "Cincinnati" did not do much, as I am here to manage I think things will move ahead again.

I expect to leave here this evening should I not, I will write you again tomorrow. — I feel considerable better to day than I have for some time past. I am in hopes that I shall be able to get along without any more chills. — Here — I, was so much put down low spirited, when I think of my short stay at home, and the privation of your good society, so much of the time. — I hope Egbert will soon change his course, for his, and your enjoyment, then we will soon meet to part N. Falls. Can

I suggested to Egbert to Lead Norward Tea made and use, as a substitute for Strong drink, I hope he may do something for a Reform, and that Speedily — I will write you again from some point below. —

How much I think of you and our darling babes, I had scarcely time to kiss them yesterday when I left, I was in such a hurry, — I can imagine how innocent they were, and how little they knew my feelings when I parted with them, — But thus it is for a time —

My best respects to Mother & Cousin and the balance of the family, with my fondest love to you & our darling babes —

From Your Affectionate Husband

C. G. Pease

Mrs G. G. Jones
care G. H. Thomas
Mail Boat
Cincinnati

Cincinnati August 6th 1845

My Dear Husband

This morning I received your letter from Memphis which was very gratifying to me for several days past I have anxiously looked for some word from you and many times I have felt discouraged and could not think why it was there was no letter for me; but it has come at last and much too short to satisfy me, it afforded me much happiness to hear of your good health, I was some disappointed that you had received no letter from me I have written 2, the first one sent on the Albatross, and one I sent last week on the Brazil – I hope you may have recieved them and know that your dear wife has not forgotten you ———
my dear husband I am very unwell and did not seat myself with the intention of writing a letter you stated in your letter you would be at Cairo about the 5th or 6th and for me to write which I suppose you expected to meet at that time – I have an idea you will come as far as Cairo and go down again and if this letter falls into some thoughtful persons hands you will be so fortunate as to receive it on your return to that point ——— I did not expect to write as much as I have already written but have a little more to say and could fill the letter but feel

too weak and unwell — several mornings ago
I awoke with a very sore throat, severe head-ache
and aching in my bones — I took 3 Seidlitz powders
in the morning which operated too freely and by
night I was much debilitated and felt sick
enough to send for the Dr who was absent from
the city: but one came as a substitute who
did not think it necessary for me to take any medicine
that night as my weakness was caused by the powders
and nursing our great girl which he thought was
out of all character and said it was no wonder I
was weak — he thought when the Dr returned he
would put a stop to it — I still remain very weak
and hardly know what is the matter with me — I feel
very much as I have at particular times before —
I think the country air would do me good but
I feel so undecided about leaving home and shutting
the house — I hope you may soon come home
so that I can enjoy a little of your society and
then I would feel willing to go in the country for
a short time — Mother and Egbert have been gone
2 weeks to day, I received a letter from Egbert from
Brownsville, Mother had enjoyed herself and all was
right so far — I look for a letter by this evenings
mail from N York as Mother promised she would
write as soon as she arrived there — I have missed
her since I have felt so unwell, there is no one
can fill a Mothers or Husbands place; Cousin
has taken the best of care of me and relieved me of

the care of the children which is no trifling task;
between them both we have what is called Bedlam
at times — Margaret Jane is all temper and is
a complete little spunk — I have corrected her several
times and I often feel if you were home altogether
I should give it in your hands to manage;
I was sorry to hear Charles had injured his foot-
and hope it may not prove any-thing serious
if you see him you can tell him we received
a letter from Emeline this week, she was well
and enjoying herself — — — well my dear husband
I have written almost a letter which I did not
expect to be able to do when I commenced but-
must close; I very much desire to see you
when I think of the time we are compelled to
be parted from each other I feel very low-spirited
and hope the time is not far distant when we
shall live in the enjoyment of each others society
without the pain of almost constant separation —
Cousin desires to be remembered to you — Ann Maria
has gone visiting next door to see Lizzy Hildreth and
the little one is asleep which is a season of rest-
for us — — — accept much love from your
sincere and affectionate Wife

P. Ann Pearce

Capt A. G. Pearce
U. S. B. Cincinnati
Care of W. Falls
Cairo Illinois

Cairo, Ills., Augt 8th/63

My Dear Wife,

We arrived here yesterday morning all in good health & left Cousin George, he was not very well on the trip up, and has concluded to go home, while the Cincinnati makes a trip, and join her again either at this place or St. Louis, — I hope this may soon reach you, and find you, and all the family in good health, — The health of New Orleans was good, up to the time of our departure, — Your esteemed favor of the 8th ult. was thankfully received, I have perused it several times, and find many items of interest, and all important which I should give serious attention, I have not time at present to write a long letter, but will detail more fully, and send from some point below. — I am sorry to learn that Cousin Jane has been quite indisposed I have been very busy since I arrived here, we have discharged our ship & reshipped our stevedores, and have nearly

all of our freight on board for down trip, and will leave here again this evening for N. O. I do not know at present whether we will make another trip after this or not. — and in case we lay the boat up, I do not know whether it will be at this point or St. Louis, — I rec'd a letter from uncle Jonathan in Iowa Territory, stating that the Land Sales come on again agreeable to adjournment the 1st day of September. — I expect to have to attend the Sales, If so I shall have to go there before coming to Cincinnati. — I have also some other business in the Territory then is a prospect of selling the farm which my Brother moved off in the Spring. — Should you want any funds you will please call on Mother, and I will replace the same by Draft on, or when I come home. — Give my best respects to Mother, Cousin & all the family, and my best love, and plenty of kisses for yourself and our dear infants,

Your fond & affectionate Husband

C. G. Pearce

Mrs. C. G. Pearce

care Mrs. Rogers & Shedack

Please send up to the House

Cincinnati

Steame Cincinnati Augt. 10/40

My Dear Wife,

I am happy to inform you, that ~~I am~~ thro' Divine Favor, I am blessed with the continuation of good health, and fondly hope this may find you all participating the same, —

This is the Sabbath day, I have been reading my little Bible, and have been reflecting on the past, present & future, and from circumstances which seem to fall to my lot, being a large portion of the time absent from Home, family & friends, it causes me at least to feel quite lonely —

I have not time to write at length, but on receiving your last letter of the 8th Ult^o, — I must confess from the source it came, to be the best advice I have ever received, On the subject of Religion my mind is not void, I have always endeavored to live as near the life of a Christian as possible, and not be a professor, Although I am well aware of my many faults, My most ardent hope is, that I may grow wiser and better, as life ~~wears~~ away, and be prepared to meet the will of an all wise Providence, —

I shall be happy at any time, when I am with you, or by letter, to converse on the Subject of Religion, My situation and occupation in life, may have oppos-ated against me, Sometimes I feel my unfitness and unworthy of the existence which is so bountifully, with the privileges extended from day to day, — But leaving all these reflections I hope some time to become a Christian, Relative to associ-ating ourselves & family with a Church I feel anxious to do any thing that may promote your happiness and our dear Children, both here, and hereafter, thus far in life I have thought myself not good enough to be a professing Christian, but at least hope for a change. —

I still think of laying up the boat on my return trip, and think it will be at St. Louis, therefore all letters that you may write previous to my return home, you will please direct to the care of Norman Cutler Esq. St. Louis (Mo), — As I expect to have to go to Iowa before coming home, I wish you to send the little Japaned Box which contains my Papers Deeds & Wallet con-taining States &c, — Send every thing in it, after taking out what you — & Mother may have

put in it, — Please cover the Box with some kind of cloth, and direct the same either by a Card or letter attached, to my address care H. Cutter St. Louis, You will please put the box in readiness, and send it down to the first boat bound for St. Louis requesting whoever takes it to the boat to inform them of the contents, — Please state on the letter, or Card, Contains Valuable Papers, — It will be important for me to have some papers which are in said Box before leaving for Iowa, therefore you will please have it forwarded by first conveyance after the receipt of this letter I shall be anxious to receive a letter from you by same conveyance. — I am very anxious to see you and, dear infants, but must forbear for a few weeks, kiss the dear babes for me, and say to them that I will be home by and by, I can imagine how cunning Margaret Jane must look running about the House — and Ann Maria no doubt as interesting as ever Remember me to Mother & Cousin & balance of the family, and please accept my best love for yourself, and our dear babes,

Your Affectionate Husband
C. G. Peace

P.S. — Please inclose the Key of Box in the Letter & sew it to the Cover that you may put on the Box

Via Nashville Tenn.

Mrs. C. G. Pearce,
care G. F. Thomas Esq
Mail Cincinnati O

Cincinnati Sept 21st 1845

My Dear Husband

I have been daily looking for an arrival from you and about an hour ago my wishes were realized by the perusal of a precious and interesting letter from my dearest husband — I was very happy to hear that you are still blessed with health and that you expect to lay the Cincinnati up after the present trip, but it was quite unexpected to me to hear that the time must be prolonged a few weeks longer by yours having to attend to business in Iowa before coming home, I desire to have patience and wait your coming at which time I feel I shall be a very happy Wife — I expect you are at Cairo about this time and if you have been so fortunate as to receive 2 letters from me of recent date you will probably see news which will surprise you — Mother and Egbert have been absent from home about a month and at this time we feel very anxious to hear from them, we have received but one letter written by Egbert a few days after their arrival at N. York, they were both well at that time and dear Mother was in company with old friends to hear her favorite minister Dr. W. daily preach — — I have written to Egbert and consider it unpardonable in him and also Mother for not being more punctual

Mother made me every promise that she would not fail to write knowing that we would be anxious to hear from her home & conducted himself, and by the long silence I fear that perhaps all things are not right; but I sincerely hope I may be disappointed in my imaginings, for it is my daily prayer that our dear parents may not have that one affliction to mar her happiness — I shall be truly happy to see dear Mother in our midst again as no one can fill her place to me — if I felt well assured she was happy I would like her to stay among her friends until the latter part of next month — I hope to get a letter by this evenings mail which will bring good tidings and relieve our minds from a state of suspense — I must be brief as it is almost 5 o'clock: at which time the boat leaves on which I send the Box and letter as directed by you — I commenced writing this morning but having so many interuptions, not sitting 2 minutes at a time to write my thoughts become uncollected — our little Margaret is very unwell and has been most of the summer — she suffers a great deal in cutting teeth and I expect to be obliged to go in the country with her a week or two — she looks so thin and pale that I feel it my duty with all my love for home to make a sacrifice of feeling and take her where she may be benifited — another trouble is I know not where to go without it is at William Chapmans and I have objections to going there but through necessity expect to submit

dear husband I am very sorry my time is limited but fearing I may lose this opportunity of sending you papers which I fear you will have to wait for in St Louis I must be brief – I have much more to write but forbear – I was much pleased with the contents of your letter, it was cheering and consoling to me; I desire that the blessing of God may rest on you as well as the remainder of our absent family and bring us all together ere long in health and happiness – the last letter I wrote you I was very unwell but feel much better at this time remember me to the friends in Iowa – I console myself you will be as expeditious as possible with your business and how happy your dear wife will be to see you once more – we should like to hear where Charles is, we have several letters to forward and expect we had best send them to Cairo – I feel anxious concerning him and do hope he is conducting himself as becoming a man – – –

accept the best love and sweetest kisses from your

ever affectionate Wife

– J. Ann. Pearce

valuable papers
in this Box

Capt C. G. Pearce
S. B. Cincinnati
Care of Norman Cutter

St Louis
Mo

Saint Louis Augt. 24th 1845

My Dear Wife,

We arrived here yesterday morning, all well, — I rec'd two letters from you at Cairo, having dates 29th July & 6th inst, which were thankfully acknowledged, and thoroughly perused, by contents I was very sorry to learn that yourself & our darling babes were unwell, I hope however you may have recovered ere this, — I am pleased to learn that Cousin has resumed her health, I dont know what you would do without her kind assistance, for which, I feel myself under lasting obligations to her, and hope some day to be able to reciprocate for all kindness and attention, so cheerfully and tenderly given, towards yourself and our dear infants, by her own willing hands. —

We are cleaning the Boat, and making ready for Painting, — and I am preparing for a trip to Iowa, and expect to leave here about 26th inst, to be at the Land Sales at Du Buques which commences on the 1st Sept. —

The health of New Orleans was good when we left, there had not been a Single case of Yellow Fever. — H. Perrin Esq & Lady are going

to spend the Summer in N. O. — he says scarcity of funds rather compels him to remain, I franked him as far as Baton Rouge, where he came to attend to some business for Mr. McMicken, whose business he says is a large portion of his support. — I have not heard from Gov. B. Pease since he left us at Cairo last Trip, I suppose he is at his Fathers in Iowa. — I sent you from Cairo for Steam "Galahuska" two Bbls. Peaches, but hearing the River is so low, I fear that they will decay upon the boat reaches the "Queen City", Should a portion of them arrive sound you and Cousin had better not exert yourselves to preserve any of them, unless you can get help. — I also sent you $50 for a Mr. Curtis an Engineer. — I would be pleased if you could get a nurse that would relieve you with the Children, if you could find one that would suit you. — Relative to shutting up the House and going into the Country, you must do as you think best. I would suggest that it might be as healthy to spend a part of the time up at Aunty's, as to go into the County, but this choice I leave entirely for you to decide, — I will write you again before I leave for Iowa. — I hope the Box with my Papers may arrive previous to my departure, which I requested you to send in a previous letter. —

My intention is to visit you, immediately on my return from Iowa. — I saw Alexander this Morning he informs me that the Chappell family are all well. — Relative to health, I advise if you would send to Harrison's and get a keg full of Blue Lick & take one or two tumblers full of it, each morning before breakfast & more through the day if necessary to keep your bowels in good condition, you would immediately find it of great benefit to you, Persons who live a sedentary life, require something of this kind — many ever since I left you, I have been taking it regularly every morning, and never think of leaving port without a Bbl. of B. Lick on board, cannot think but what Blue Lick, or something of the kind to regulate the bowels, is the principal Key to Health, — I am of your last Physician opinion, about nursing Margaret Jane, this might be a precarious season to wean her, but I think it would very much improve your strength & health, & might be as well for her, relative to this particular you are better advised than myself. — One of my Mocking birds is dead & I have no way of sending the other Home, as Mr Faris by whom I send this letter, goes through by Stage, — Remember me to Cousin & please accept my best love & plenty of kisses, for yourself & dear daughter. — Your affectionate Husband

C. G. Peace

Mrs. C. G. Pearce

Cincinnati, O.

Box 4
Mr. Davis

St. Louis Augt. 26th 1845

My Dear Wife,

I can inform you thro' Divine favor, that I am still blessed with health, & fondly hope this may find you, and our little family generally participating in the enjoyment of the same. — Yesterday was Sabbath day I attended Church in the Morning and Evening & heard very good Sermons — The text in the Morning — Thou shalt love thy neighbour as thy self — In the evening, the parable of the prodigal Son, in which the Minister labored to shew, that many Sinners after they have fallen to the lowest degradation, are not willing as did this Young man, to arise and go to their Heavenly Father, when their is plenty & to spare, but he pictured it out too near my own excuse, that many would say, that they were not good enough, and would live longer in sin to grow better, perhaps like myself many are too fond of procrastination, and trust in this all important duty that some more convenient time may do as well —

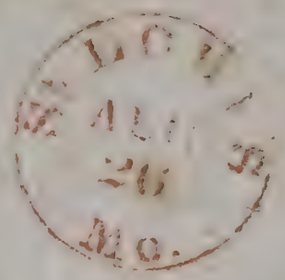
I have rec'd. letters from my Uncle in Iowa informing me that his family & my Brothers are —

– all in good health. – I expect to leave for Iowa tomorrow or next day & will probably write you again before leaving. – I have wished you here to accompany me, and an injunction, knowing my (bump of) to much scattered, which I wish to chase, together with the handshakes to be indulged with children on a small boat in low water & hot weather, that I have again wisely concluded, that you are much more comfortable in Cincinnati, To this last clause you may suggest an amendment, that I might come and remain with you, to say the least for a short time, which I do assure you, I feel my anxious to do & will avail myself of the first consistant opportunity. – I called on Mr. Chappell's family last evening, they are all well, and express a great anxiety to see you and our darling babes. – Aunt Sarah is still here, I dont know whether she intends returning to Cincinnati or not. – Mrs. Alexander's youngest is quite a plump little fellow, if I remember right, they call him Henry Dayton Bacon Alexander quite a name for a little mossel, like him – Mrs. Copp, wished to know if Margaret Jane, had as beautiful White Skin as Ann Maria, I told her, that the last edition was quite an improvement in this particular. – Little Willy Alexander does not grow much, "Kate" says he

is constitutionally ugly in distortion, but says she does not know when he takes it from, as it cannot be from any of its Grand Parents, Father or Mother or any of his Aunts, — & then is no accounting at all times for a childs temper, — I have persuaded Michael to take his dinner back, as I looked upon the trouble of taking care of it to over balance all the pleasure we might even derive from it. — There was quite a stir when we left N. Orleans relative to the Mexican War, but all may end in nothing a few hours before we left information was rec. and orders issued from the different principal Offices, that the Mexicans were 10,000 strong within 8 days march of Genl. Taylors army who are garrisoned on the Sa. Grande in Texas, in consequence of this rumor, and some other information, Genl. Gaines made a requisition on the Gov. of Louisiana for two regiments of troops to march forthwith to Texas, Handbills were posted through the City of N.O. headed War War!! — The U.S. Regulars stationed at different points, are also receiving marching orders & Small Steamers chartered daily to convey them to different parts of Texas. — Remember me to our dear Cousin & accept my best love for yourself & our little daughter. — Your affectionate Husband.

Christopher Gardner Pearce

P.S. — I hope to receive a letter, and Box before leaving for Texas



10

Mrs. C. G. Peace,
care G. F. Thomas Esqr
Mail 3 Cincinnati, O.

St. Louis Augt. 27th 1845

My Dear Wife,

I have just rec'd your kind letter and Bay, which has come to hand in good time, as I have to day for Iowa & expect to take Dutie along with me, to visit his Brother & relatives in the Territory, — I am very much pleased to learn that your health is improving & am sorry to learn that our infant is still unwell, if she remains in that situation, perhaps it will be well for you to spend a few weeks in the Country, if my business would permit, I should be very anxious to accompany you to the Country, or some place of recreation, — I hope you will be gratified in this reaches you, by receiving good intelligence from our dear Mother, & hope her sojourn in New York & vicinity, may be the means of doing great good in reclaiming Egbert, and a source of enjoyment to her. —

If you have any Letters for Captain Sackett, I think you might as well forward them to Cairo, Ills, care N. Falls, as he will probably be up with

the Boat, when Harrison on a second consideration, I think you might as well forward his letters to New Orleans, if you have not sent them previous to the receipt of this letter. —

Nothing particularly interesting has in the way of news. — Weather very warm much more so than I have experienced this season either in N. Orleans or on the River, — My health remains good, I am still an advocate for Blue Lick, and shall take a Jug full with me into the Territory, — I hope this may find your little Circle in good health, — I am very anxious to see all of you, and kiss our dear children, say to them that Father will soon come home, I am aware that you & Cousin must have quite a task to take care of the Children & do the House work this warm weather. — I must close as I have considerable business to attend to, My best respects to our dear Cousin, and please accept my best love for yourself, and our darling little daughter

Your affectionate Husband

C. G. Pearce

Mrs. C. G. Leach
care G. F. Thomas Esq
Mail 3 Cincinnati, O.

New York. N. J. Sept. 3/40

My Dear Wife,

I arrived here on the 1st inst. — found my relatives only in tolerable health, — some of the grown and some of the Children sick with the Chills & Fever. — I feel quite disappointed to learn that the Sales for our fractional Township does not come in Market until the 10 & 11th inst, — which will cause me to loose 10 days more time than I anticipated — If I had known of the arrangement I might have spent the 10 days in St. Louis to good advantage superintending my repairs &c. but as I am up here, I deemed it as useless to return to St. Louis for the short time I would have to remain, — I have lodgings in the neighborhood where my Brother formerly resided & shall take the first boat down & return again in time to attend the Sales at Dubuque. — My health remains very good & I fondly hope this may find yourself & all the family in good health, I often think of our dear Children fearing they may be sick, as I have seen so many sick Children

-since I have been in the Territory —
I had quite an adventure on my way
up at Tully Mo, I took one of the
Packet Boats to that point to gain time
on the Yahoo boat, which was to leave
St. Louis about the same time, I had
to go into to County back of Tully
5 or 6 Miles to see a gentleman, and
went out on Horseback, on my return
near Tully as I was descending a hill
the Horse either stumbled, or took fright,
and runaway, I endeavored to check
his furious speed by holding up, but
rigging soon gave way, the bridle & Stirrup
broke, and the headway of the Horse was
only checked by throwing him, which pitched
me over his head some 15 feet under
a fence, and Miraculous to say only
made a little wound over my right eye
However the shock was pretty severe I
soon felt quite sore in my shoulders
neck & in short all over. — But at
present am nearly over the Shock. —
May this find you all in health is my
sincere wish. — My respects to all the family
& please accept my best love for yourself
& our little daughter. — Your affectionate Husband
O. G. Pearce

$10

ST LOUIS
SEP
8

Mrs. C. G. Pearce,
care G. F. Thomas Esq
Cincinnati, O.

Mail,

Davenport I. T. Sept. 8th 1845

My Dear Wife,

It is something after 9. O. Clock at night, I have just finished several Deeds of Land which I have sold, and cannot think of retiring for the night before I addrep in the form of an epistle the dear One of my affections, Thro' Divine favor I am still blessed with good health, and fondly hope this may find you all participating in the same. I have sold the farm which my Brother formerly resided on, to a Mr. L. D. Vielle for $1,613 and expect to get the money as I return. I am here waiting to take the first Boat bound up, and hope one may come along to night, as I have some unsettled business about, that I can attend to before the Land Sale, which takes place on the 10th & 11th inst. This is a beautiful place for Summer resort, but business seems quite dull and limited. I left Dutee J. with his Brother & Cousins, he seems to enjoy himself very well in the Territory, If you have time please braid me a Guard Chain against I come home, which I hope will be between the 20th & 25th inst. However if

- you are otherwise engaged, it will not make any difference at present, as the old one looks very well. — I feel very anxious about the health of yourself and our darling little daughter, But can only trust in Him who is able to save & protect you, and hope that my wish may not be in vain, when I desire that we may long live to enjoy our family circle, and become useful members of Society, And finally when we have performed our duties here upon Earth, be accepted into Heaven. — I am inclined to think that Mother and Egbert may return before I do. — Remember me to our dear Cousin, I hope she enjoys good health without her kind aid, I dont know what you would do, — My Cousin Louisa Bull residing near my Uncles, lost her babe an infant about One Year old, just a few days before I arrived there, — My Dear I hope soon to see you, and our darlings, and in the mean time please accept my best love for yourself & our little daughter, with plenty of Kisses. —

Your Sincere and Affectionate Husband

C. G. Pearce

Mrs. C. G. Pierce
care G. F. Thomas Esq.
Mail Cincinnati, O.

Du Buque I. T. Sept 8th 1840

My Dear Wife,

I arrived here yesterday which was Sabbath day, I attended in the afternoon and Evening One of the Churches in this City contiguous to the Hotel where I put up, which Hotel is the best here, and will certainly rate in a clap with the second rate Catfish Hotels anywhere. My Uncle & Brother John are here with me for the purpose of attending the Land Sales, which for our Fractional Township takes place on Thursday 11th inst, until then I am compelled to remain in this lonesome City, contrary to my inclination, if I could in any way avoid it. but at all events have to submit. This section of Country is quite variegated, with romantic hills, and wide spread Prairies, with the Mississippi winding its way through, dotted here and there, with its numerous Islands, the visitor can behold the above described Scenery and view at the same time the State of Illinois, Wisconsin & Iowa Territories, altogether it may be considered a very pleasant Country, if a person had any

thing to do, to occupy the mind, but constant idleness I do abhor, or the person that practices it, they must, or should be styled Satan's own helpmate. —

My health remains good, and I fondly hope this may find yours, our little daughter + the balance of the family all in the participation of the same inestimable blessing — The Country at this time, in consequence of Bilious attacks, Chills and Fevers, may be considered very sickly, either in the Country or Villages you can scarcely pass a House, without seeing some number of the family in bed, the weather however is growing some colder, and an improvement in health may soon be anticipated. —

I still feel anxious about your health, and our dear children, and shall remain in this suspense until I arrive in St. Louis, where I expect to recieve an epistle from you, and sincerely hope it may be the Herald of glad tidings, — I shall mail this to night by way of Galena, Chicago &c. I wrote you last from Davenport A. T. and forwarded by way of St. Louis. — Remember me to all the family and please accept my best love for yourself and our little darlings.

Your affectionate Husband C. G. Pearce

Via. Chicago Ills.

10

Mrs. C. G. Peace

care G. F. Thomas Esq

Mail Cincinnati, O.

Louisville Nov 20th 1845

My Dear Wife,

I arrived here this morning about Breakfast time, and feel my Stomach improving & hope it will continue. —

The "Cincinnati" came up last night 19th inst, & we will leave here tomorrow 21st inst. — She had a good trip up & down, her gross receipts for the trip here about $5500 — I feel quite lonely after leaving you and our darlings, and have often thought how interesting they appear whilst at play & Margaret Jane's little prattle. — Enclosed I send you $50 — which you can loan to Mother, should she want it, to help pay her taxes, or for other purposes. — I will write you again from some point below, Found all well on board the "Cincinnati" and were very glad to see me.

Your Affectionate Husband

C. G. Peace

P. S. — Should Doct. Ray present his bill on or about first of January, for Dental J. Cochran at Woodward High School you will please pay it. Adieu.

C. G. P.

$50 — Encl. 1 pc

Mrs. C. G. Pearce
care Mrs Rogers & Shurlock
Cincinnati
O.

Steam (mermaid,
Nov 29th 1849)

My Dear Wife,

We are at this time a few miles above Memphis laying by for a snow storm, and have had very blustering, and bad weather for our business since we left Louisville some days it has been so smoky that we had to lay by. — We have also had the bad luck to get aground several times, — And worse than all, I have disobeyed your good advice and have been punished smartly for it, At Louisville and after leaving there, I exerted myself too much, and with the sudden change of weather, I was attacked with a slight chill & followed by Fever, the same the following day only worse, the next day I took my bed and still felt same as the previous days, the two following days I kept my bed took the necessary Medicine, lived sumptuously on gruel, and escaped both chills & Fever I am to day on my legs and feel quite smart, have enjoyed

my chicken soup, and soon hope to fully regain my former strength. From recent experience I am fully of the belief that I shall not go on the Hurricane deck again until I get into a warm climate, I need no one now to chide me about taking care of myself. I think I can realize what suffering by breaking over the bounds of good advice. — With all my indisposition, bad luck in grounding &c, we have a very good trip on board over the Something upwards of $3,000 — and such a multitude you now saw together, including Horses, Mules, Cattle, Sheep, Hogs, and all kinds of Poultry we must have 4,000 in number, almost equal to Noah's Ark, — I very much miss the society of yourself and our little family circle, and how I do want to see our little darlings, tell Ann Maria that Father says she must be a good girl, treat her little sister very kindly, and learn to mind very badly and then she shall receive many pretty presents. — I hope this may find you all in good health, and that

had your Dress
you may have made up in
this, and desire that it may please you
equally as well as it did in the piece,
Cousin too, I hope she may have
seen something in the way of checks
or stripes that she has fancied, I do
not mean the checked stripes of
misfortune. — Remember me to Master,
Egbert, and his best friend, Aunty
and in short all our family friends
generally. —

I cannot close without
letting you know how much I
thought, and appreciate the worth
home attendance and constant
kindness, even from a few days
sojourn on board of a Steam
Boat. — Please write and address
me at Louisville, in case that I
cannot come home, we shall be
in Louisville about 15th Inst. and
perhaps as soon sooner, —

Your Affectionate Husband

C. G. Penny

Via. Nashville

DEC 4

Mrs. C. G. Pearce

care G. F. Thomas Esq.

Cincinnati O.

S. B. Cincinnati Dec 2nd 1863

My Dear Wife,

We are at this time just above Vicksburgh, — My health has been improving since I wrote you last. I have contented myself to remain in the Cabin, thinking it best for me, since my last experiment in trying to do more than my constitution would bear — The weather has turned very pleasant & I soon expect to enjoy the warm breezes of the Sunny South, which I think will fully bring me out, — I have only time to write a few lines informing you that I feel well & think I shall not be troubled with any more chills if I am careful and do not expose myself I will send this from Vicksburg, Remember me to all the family, kiss our darlings for me, and accept my best love for yourself

Your Sincere & Affectionate Husband

C. G. Peace

Opened & over

Stmr. Cincinnati Dec 13/45

My Dear Wife,
I left this letter at Vicksburg on our trip down to be forwd. by first Boat bound up, but the neglectful fellows did not obey instructions - and let the letter remain until we returned — I open it to let you hear from me, and fearing that the Ohio may be too low for us to get up, will have this mailed at Memphis, which place we will soon arrive at on our trip up, and hope we may meet a rise in the Ohio, but from what information we have as yet rec'd, it remains quite doubtful, My health has been improving since I wrote the opposite side of this sheet having date of the 2 inst, — The "Sunny South" that I expected to find, was most of the time quite cold & disagreeable, we have at this time very pleasant weather. —

Remember me to Mother. Cousin Sall the family, and accept my best love for yourself and our little darlings. May this find you all in good health. — Your affectionate Husband

C. G. Pearce

Mrs. C. G. Spence,
care of S. Thomas Esqr
Cincinnati O

Remember me to Heather, c
and accept my best lo
little darlings. May this f
good health. — Your af

Cincinnati Dec 9th 1845

My dear Husband

Through the mercy of a kind Providence our family are in the enjoyment of health, for which inestimable blessing we cannot be too grateful — the scarlet fever is very fatal among children and also much sickness among adults; there was an instance last week of 2 children lying in one family of this disease and the remaining 2 laying very low. but it is a natural consequence when one takes this disease it generally goes throughout a family — Franklin Mitchells wife Sarah S. is given up by her Physician, who tells her he can do no more for her; her lungs are ulcerated which makes it beyond the power of man to save her, she is in the hands of God who is all sufficient — when told her condition, she answered she thought she was prepared; when asked what disposition she would like to have made with her 2 dear children she left it entirely with her husband — this is a sudden attack and shows the uncertainty of life; how necessary it is for us all to be watchful and be prepared for the coming of the Lord — Sarah S. is a beautiful flower to be snatched from earth, but it is for them, the most lovely are often times called from this world of sin and sorrow to be transplanted in a more heavenly and blissful land where I trust we may one and all meet them — I have learned through your housekeeper that you had not been so well owing to

expense, I was grieved to hear it because I thought you were fully conscious of your situation and I firmly believed you would take care of yourself — now my dear husband suffer me to plead with you not only for your own sake but for the happiness of your wife, Take care of your Health if you neglect it you will be sensible of it, I do beg and intreat you to leave it; it will be no advantage to you to break down your constitution, and yourself be the sufferer, my dear when you are absent from me I have many moments of serious thought and reflection on this subject I do not speak this from any selfish motive but for your own comfort and happiness — how many advantages with it would flow if you were differently engaged, you would have an opportunity of keeping the Sabbath and hearing the word of God which all are entitled to enjoy — this subject has great weight on my mind, and last Sabbath morning the Rev Brother Trimbell preached a sermon from this text, "As for me and my house we will serve the Lord" — the subject was a very impressive one, my thoughts wandered to you, I felt confident that we could never be happy and enjoy full peace of mind unless we lived a more uniform and holy life — dear husband I know you have reflections on this subject, and when we have been together we have let the time pass by without conversing with each other — how true the lines of the hymn, "How is wonder that I feel it, How can it be I live. Dearest husband I could write at some length on this subject but time forbids — Hope you'll excuse. I fear that you daily neglect with you — — — I will now give you my reason for not

writing to this — after receiving your letter from Louisville I expected to receive another from some port below which has not yet come to hand, and I deferred writing until I should get some further information from you where to direct my letters — the mail has been very irregular owing to navigation, and for 2 days there has been no mail from Louisville the river being entirely obstructed by ice — we have had 2 weeks bitter cold weather, snow fell fast and thick for several days which made good sleighing — yesterday the weather moderated and such a thaw of ice and snow as was not sorry to see and you will not dislike to hear of, as we have the promise of a booming river which will bring us plenty of coal at a more reasonable price and indeed reduce the price of every thing which has been most exorbitant and very hard for the poor — coal has sold for $5 and 30 cts per bushel — wood 5 and 6 $ a cord and every thing in proportion — I for one feel truly grateful for all the comforts we enjoy, and am willing to do whatever is in my power to assist the poor and needy — Ann Maria daily comes to me and says now Mother let us talk about Father, as soon as Margaret Jane catches the sound she runs up and says, no Sally sis, "my Papa" We like to have to talk about you — when no one is speaking to her she commences with, take care Sarah you may be mad she is a complete mimic and talks much more than when you were here — she is so endearing that every one loves her — I have no trouble with her at night, and all pronounce her a good child — I have some trouble with Ann Maria who is very determined to have her own way — I have to be decided and firm; I find it have patience and knowledge to train them in a proper manner, and I feel the responsibility a very important one

I am very much engaged in sewing and scarcely know what it is to have a spare moment, and upon sitting all day Sunday and I start out about 4 or 5 o'clock and walk until dark my new dress is not yet made but it will soon be on the carpet as I must have it in readiness for you by Christmas or sooner even - Sherry left us a week ago, their family are well - Hale and Egbert are as usual, she is here most of the time - we have many things to contend with which are unpleasant, but bear all in silence - Emeline is here to day

receiving Hale with open arms - I forgot to mention the money which you sent came safe - thanks to you my dear - I give my prayers to hear from you, and think you must have written and the letter be miscarried - Remember us to Uncle George and all inquiring friends, each member of the family send love to you - many kisses from five precious children, and in conclusion our husband remember your health - a kiss my dear from your affectionate

Wife Ann

Smithland Dec 15. 1845

My Dear Wife,

We arrived here this morning & have to unship on account of low water, and will return from this place, I will write you again when I have more time, my health is very good — We have a fair prospect for a good trip to N Orleans, May this find you all in health is my sincere wish. my respects to all the family & my best love to you & dear darlings - I hope you will enjoy the holidays

Your affectionate Husband

In haste, as the Boat is waiting

C. G. Pearce

5

STEAM

Mrs. C. G. Pearce

care G. H. Thomas

Cincinnati

Ohio

S. B. "Cinti," Dec 17. 1845

My Dear Wife,

We are at this time taking in freight at Cairo, and will get a fair trip. — The coming of the date I last addressed you, the news of a rise in the Ohio reached Smithland for Steamer "Trump" I had at the time given up my pat. & passages to small boats, and regretted very much that I had not learned of the rise before giving up my trip, However I will get a very fair trip back, and think I will be in a better place with the "Cincinnati" than to have been with the usual boats at Louisville, say the "Alex. Scott" "Louisville" & "Empire" & other Louisville boats. — My health remains good & I am growing stronger daily & hope this may find you all in health, — I would like very much if I could spend the holi-days with you, But as I cannot, I hope you will all enjoy yourselves by family circle & feast on Mince Pies and other good diet. — I will write you again from Memphis, and at more length as I shall have more time, My love to all the family & please accept to same, for yourself & our darling Children. Your affectionate Husband

C. G. Pearce

Paid. Dec. 20

10

Mrs. C. G. Pearce,
care G. D. Thomas Esq
Cincinnati,
O

S. B. Cincinnati Dec 20th 1845

My Dear Wife,

We are at this time a few miles above Memphis, on our downward trip; with a fine load, our reciepts will be upwards of $4,000 if we arrive safely at New Orleans which is the best Cargo I ever took down, or to say the largest reciepts. — I regretted very much that I had given up my trip at Smithland, after I was informed of the rise in the Ohio, But since I have done so well in running, and the probability of any severe weather above from what we have had, I think we have escaped an Ice trip, and perhaps detention in the Ohio, very luckily. —

The weather is quite cold here, with considerable floating Ice, I think it must be very cold in Cincinnati at this time. — Holidays are soon at hand and I have nothing particularly to cheer me on the occasion, were I at home enjoying the society of my Own Dear & innocent darlings, together with our family circle, how diffrent I should feel, but circumstances for my portion, have placed me far off, and a part of the time in a diffrent clime,

– I hope however to ascend the Ohio on our next trip to Louisville with the Cincinnati; if so, you must not be astonished to see me down after next Thurs. day, from the 3d to the 5th proximo. Say to "Ann Maria" that Father wants her to be a good girl, mind every body, treat her little sister very kindly, and learn all of her letters, and then I shall love her, and give her many very pretty things, as soon as she is careful, and learns to take care of them, "Margaret Jane" must learn to mind, and not bite her sister, nor be a little fratchy child. – I hope you have enjoyed your plaid, drop 'em this, and that Cousin is participating the same pleasure, from some choice of her known taste in these matters, I hope Aunty's sight may have improved since I left home. – Mother as usual I conjecture enjoys herself with our little ones, and as usual has a watchful care over you all, How happy I feel when absent from you, to know that you are under the protection of such a Mother, whose efforts are untiring in your behalf. – My health is good, I am falling at the rate of about one pound per day, day for the 15 days, past –

– I have changed in looks very materially, cast off the Sailor complexion, and when it is a little cold look quite Rose like in the face. – On the way up I mailed a letter at Memphis which I calculated should take the Land route, but nothing to put Via Nashville on it, I suppose that went in the first river mail after the one we had, I again write you from Smithland & Cairo, – From what I conjecture of the density of the weather above, I shall send this from Memphis Via Nashville, and desire that you answer it immediately & direct Same to Memphis, saying Via Nashville on it, by this arrangement I can get a letter from you as I return, which would be very gratifying to me, and the more so should we find the Ohio too low for us to ascend, or aground by Ice on our return, which I hope may not be the case. –

May this find you all in health is my fervent wish. – Remember me to Mother Cousin & all the family, & please accept my best love for yourself and our darling babes. –

Your fond & affectionate Husband

C. Gardner Peace

H.

Via. Nashville.

Mrs. C. G. Pearce,
care G. F. Thomas Esq.
Cincinnati, O.

S. B. Cincinnati Dec 24/63

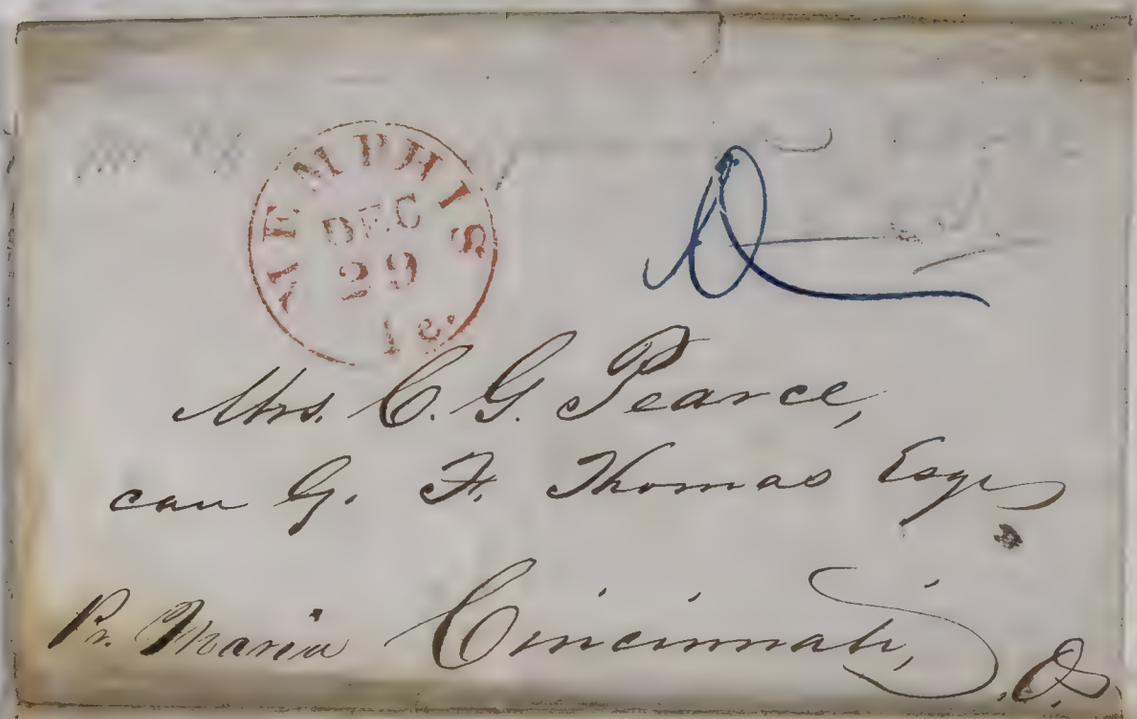
My Dear Wife,

We are at this time just above Vicksburg, our trip down will be quite a long one, occasioned by dark & foggy nights, — Your much esteemed favor of the 15th inst per Mr Davis was rec'd at Memphis, but not until my letter to you, had gone to the Post Office, I am sorry to learn by the contents of your letter, that you were quite indisposed with a cold, I hope however you have fully recovered ere this comes to hand, if not, I hope you will take something that will give you immediate relief, — Your letter as per advise, per Str. "Queen City" I have not rec'd; it is quite likely I may get it in New Orleans, if they have not put it out on the way down. — My mind at any time is not void, thinking of you and our darling children, I hope soon to see you all, — Remember me to all the family, & please accept my best love & many kisses, for your self & our little ones

Your sincere & affectionate Husband

"My health is good,"

C. Gardner Pearce



Mrs. C. G. Pearce,
care G. F. Thomas Esq.
Pr. Ohania
Cincinnati, O.

Str. "Cincinnati" Jan. 15th 1846

My Dear Wife,

In consequence of fatigue I have declined writing until the present time, My intention was, when I left Louisville, to have written before reaching Memphis, but depriving myself of sleep, nearly all the way out of the Ohio, I felt more like sleeping, than writing for the first several hundred miles after coming into the Missi Riv, This morning we are about 150 Miles above Vicksburg and expect to reach that place sometime to night, when I shall leave this letter to be put on the first Boat bound for Louisville or the Queen City." My health remains good, and I fondly hope this may find you all participating an equal blessing. I have reflected much on my short visit home, And have imagined how ~~much~~ much happiness I might realize with my dear Wife and interesting children, if I was so situated as to be with them, relative to this matter, I hope circumstances will soon warrant my desire, In your much esteemed letter of the 9th ult. I find many remarks, worthy of serious reflection, and if fully complied with, would ensure happiness to all,—

– On our trip out, we had considerable ice and think by its turning cold again that you had pretty severe winter weather in Cincinnati, Hawever I presume the Ohio would rise considerable after we came out, And it may be desired that plenty of coal and wood may find its way to the "Queen City" for the good of all, if the last rise did not bring down any coal, Mother had better ~~get~~ get one load only at the present high rates, in hopes that it will be more abundant and much cheaper soon, – Our present trip down is worth $3,500 – Upon our present expenses and deductions, I might have had a better trip, but himind of to get ahead of the large number of boats which were laying at Louisville & those which left Canal days before us, we are now ahead of all the Louisville boats but One, & expect to beat her back to Louisville, We have rainy weather here, and no doubt the same kind of weather will reach the upper country, if so, another rise may be expected, – My love to all the family and please accept my best love for yourself and our little darling. – Your affectionate Husband

C. Gardner Peirce

Mrs. C. G. Pearce
care G. F. Thomas Esq
Cincinnati,
O.

Louisville Jan 28th 1846

My Dear Wife,

I took an early start from the "Cincinnati" she lies at the foot of the Canal, when I left this morning at the break of day, I rode up on the hurricane deck of a horse, which was very good exercise, but rather frosty — My health remains good, and I fondly hope this may find you all participating an equal bliping, and that you may have fully recovered from your late indisposition by Cold ere this comes to hand. — I saw Capt. Manfort this morning who says he sent you some Baltimore Oysters as he passed through the "Queen City" if they are good I am pleased that you have been fortunate enough to receive such a present, as I could not comply with your request to send ~~them~~ any from the "Cincinnati" being all disposed of when I returned to the boat. — I will however, recollect you on our next trip, As I stated yesterday, I hope you will be ready to take an excursion down the River, on our next trip, or the trip following,

make up your minds to all leave, and close the House for a time, say for one trip or more, I hope to be able to make you a visit next trip, I am hurrying off this trip, to get clear of a cluster of boats, at New Orleans I left in the same way to get clear from about Forty upper country boats, I calculate that we will have a better chance in N. O. this trip, the "Sultana" and numerous other boats are due, which will leave in a few days. — We will leave this evening for the purpose of being ahead. — I have again refered to your much valued letter, since writing you yesterday, and feel truly thankful to the author of our existance, that I am helped with a partner who can give such good advice as that document contains, how well would it be for me, if I was in full possession of such Earthly assurances as cannot fail to produce Heavenly happiness hereafter. — I often think of you, and our intersting little darlings, and how anxious I feel to see you, say to the little pets that Father will come home to see them again soon, and that they must be good Children, mind Mother & every body. — Relative to the government of our children

I shall be pleased to assist you; and hope soon to be so situated as to do so. I hope you will still continue your walks if you find them beneficial to your health. – I feel sorry that you have had so unpleasant a life, it may have been injurious; but I hope exercise, and a change of scenery, will fully invigorate you. –

Give my love to Mother, and all the family, and please accept the same for yourself and our little darlings. –

Ever Sincere & Affectionate Husband

C. Gardner Pearce

Mrs. C. G. Pearce
care G. F. Thomas Esq

Cincinnati
O.

S. B. "Cincinnati" Jan 31st 1846

My Dear Wife,

We are at this time a short distance above Memphis, on our downward passage, with a trip on board worth $3.000 — which is smaller in amount of receipts occasioned by the reduced price of freight than our former trips have been. — You may anticipate our arrival at Louisville about the 12th or 13th prox.mo,

Tomorrow will be Sabbath, and my birth day, I shall be 34 years old, when I reflect on the years that have past, and the fact that I have a little family growing up, and by the laws of nature, it reminds me that I have fully approximated to half the time allotted to man as a sojourner here, but how little do we know of the time we are to remain, How necessary then it becomes us to be prepared for the coming of the Lord — On our trip up we passed one Sabbath, on which occasion we had two very able sermons delivered on the boat, one by Professor Finley of Kentucky, and the other by a Rev. gentleman from Alabama, As we have several Ministers on board, I expect to be favored with a sermon tomorrow. —

The "Champion" left Cairo a few days before we passed down, she was destined for St. Louis, and will find water sufficient to let her up and out again. —

My health remains good, and I fondly hope this may find you, and all the family participating an equal blessing. — I desire that you, and all the family may be prepared to take a trip South when you think most convenient and expedient, I think to spend a Month in the would be Sunny South, would rejoice you all, and how pleasant it will be for me, to have you and our darlings with me, as long as I cannot remain at home, — I spend much time in anticipation thinking of you and our little ones, and the happiness that we may yet enjoy, in our own little family Society, if my dreams would accord, with both of our feelings on this subject, we would soon be in possession of the anticipated enjoyment. — I will endeavor to make you a visit on my trip up, if you are prepared to take a journey South very well, if not, it can be performed at some later period. — Say to our little pets, that Pa the will soon come home to see them,

I hope you, and our dear Cousin Jane may hear me, some good from your new doings on this, Say to Cousin, I hope her may capticate a prize worth having, with her smiles and worthiness, which would be fully reciprocated in exchange. — I will hand this at Memphis, and may write again from Vicksburg. —
Remember me affectionately to all the family, and please accept my best love for yourself, and our little darlings with plenty of kisses. —

Your affectionate Husband,
C. Gardner Pearce

"

"Margaret Jane is a "Bad Old Gal"

"Steamer "Cincinnati"

Egbert Sackett

"

Mrs. C. G. Pearce,
care G. F. Thomas Esq
Cincinnati, O.

Louisville Feby 16th 1846

My Dear Wife,

I have only time to write a few lines, which in consequence of being all day has been depend until the last moment, say 10. O'clock at night, I will write you from several points below in which I will state about the time I expect to return to this place, My health remains good, and I fondly hope this may find you all participating the same inestimable blessing — I feel much pleased that I have made you a short visit and hope soon to enjoy your society for a longer time, and amuse myself with our infantile darlings —

Remember me to all the family and please accept my best love for yourself & our dear Children. —

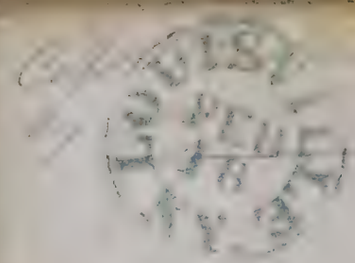
Your Affectionate Husband

C. G. Pearce

P. S. You will think this very short, but we are now about ready to make our departure,

Yours

C. G. P



Mrs. C. G. Pierce,
care G. F. Thomas Esq
Cincinnati
Part Ohio
Ohio

Steam "Cincinnati"
Wednesday Feby. 18th 1846

My Dear Wife,

We are at this time, an am downward trip just above Cairo, say 3, o'clk P.M. — We have a fair trip, and expect to arrive in N. Orleans about next Monday Morning, and will depart for the upper Country in time to reach Louisville about the 3rd Proximo, or perhaps one day sooner, I hope should the health of the family permit that you will all be in readiness at that time, to leave home on our long contemplated journey South, at short notice! — I will write again from Memphis, or some point below, — I often think of you & our little ones, since I last parted with you, and can imagine their fondness and sweet prattling, how innocent and lovely they are, I hope soon to enjoy for a time yours, and their society, it may be the last one long month, and hope during your sojourn South, it may be pleasant for you, and the balance of our family who may accompany us. — My health remains good, & truly hope this may find you all in the enjoyment of the same. — Say to Emeline that she must not fail to be in readiness to accompany you, as I shall write Charley that she will in all probability be with you when you come, —

Your affectionate Husband

C. G. Pierce

Cairo, Pt. Isely, Co
Ill.

Mrs. C. G. Pearce,
care G. F. Thomas Esq.
Cincinnati,
Ohio

Str. Cincinnati Feb. 21st 1864

My Dear Wife,

We are at this time nearing Vicksburg, on our downward passage, and feel some better than when I last addressed you, as regards my trip, in consequence of getting upwards of 100 head of Cattle at Helena, (Ark.) which will bring our receipts up to our last trip, say $3.000. We expect to reach N. Orleans on Monday morning, and depart from there in time to arrive at Louisville about 2 or 3 P.M. evening, as previously advised, —

My health remains good, and I truly hope this may find you all participating in the same inestimable blessing. — I have written you twice before this, since I left you, one of which was left at Cairo, and the other at Memphis, this I will leave at Vicksburg, all of which I hope will reach you by due course of Mail, or otherwise,

Remember me to all the family, and please accept my best love for yourself our little darlings with lots of kisses. —

Your Sincere & affectionate Husband

C. Gardner Reams

10

Mrs. C. G. Pearce,
care G. F. Thomas Esq
First Boat
Cincinnati,
O.

Cincinnati Feb 28th/46

My dear Husband

This is the last day of Winter which is leaving us like a lion, it has been bitter cold weather for the last week nearly as cold as any day this winter, it snowed through the night and at this time it is hailing very fast which renders walking; I wrote to you about a week since by the Yorktown and directed to Memphis but if you if did not reach that place in time for you, it did something of importance to me which made me anxious for you to receive it - therefore in case you did not I will state to you the matter of upon your imformation - the subject of it is not worth so many words, but it is relative to old Sylvia, if you have not left her at N. Orleans I hope you will put her off at Louisville, I seek if you any reasons for making this request - which I will not again repeat but wait until I see you - I also stated to you that Susan Tinsley wanted to go down about that time and asked me if she could go and do what we wanted to be done for her passage; if you cannot obtain a chambermaid to go with the girls you can take the trip down

now my dear should I come down and find the old nigger on the boat, I shall give her mighty black looks, for I cannot bring my feelings to be anywhere near her - it is not only what I have heard lately but I remember many things she was guilty of the last time we were on the boat, if justice had been done her she fully deserved a kick in the river I feel that what I have said is sufficient and that you are always willing to grant a reasonable request — we are all well and have been preparing for the expected trip and expect to be ready to leave when notified - I hope the weather will be milder than it now is —
I received 2 letters from you this week which is a proof that you do not forget to think of me Emma has succeeded to receive many as which is just as it should be — my dear I do not think there is any necessity for your coming up though I am always most happy to see you and when I reflect on the many excellencies my dear companion possess I wonder that I am at all resigned to our separation yet after year — our dear children are in perfect health and we have all growing Margaret Jane in the museum as a show one is so fat that she waddles along as though it was an effort to move — Now to a close as it

is Saturday and my moments are precious
adieu dear one until we meet with a smart
kiss ... from thine and affectionate Wife

J. Ann Pierce

STEAM

Capt C. G. Pearce

Care of Capt Basham

Louisville

Ky

Steam. Cincinnati March 5th 46

My Dear Wife,

We are at this time on our passage up about 50 Miles below Louisville with a good trip — Say at least 150 Cabin & upwards of 200 deck Passengers, with as much freight as we wanted. —

At present I think of remaining at Louisville, and will send this up by the "Simon Kenton" tomorrow per hands of some person that will deliver it, in order that you may be in readiness to return by the "Kenton". —

I suppose of course Egbert is at home, and will see that you are all on board in time, if not, you must request the assistance of some of our friends to see you on board, I shall expect to see you all by return of the "Kenton", and will be in attendance to welcome you. — Your kind favor of the 23d ult. was rec.d at Memphis and contents perused, Your request shall be granted, — Our trip has been some longer than I anticipated when I left you — My respects to all the family, & please accept my best love for yourself & our little darlings. —

Your Affectionate Husband
C. Gardner Rowe

I will settle your Fare at Louisville & Thurston you will not pay it, }

P. S. — Send down and have State Rooms engaged for your Company early, before the last are taken. —

C. G. R.

"Ben Franklin No 6" in place "Simon Kenton"

Mrs. C. G. Pearce,
care G. G. Thomas Esq.
Cincinnati,
Ohio

New Orleans April 20th 1846

My Dear Wife,

We have arrived safely at this port and find things about as we might expect. — All well on board. — But Johnie Fallon an old animal, he is in good health also — We expect to have him on Thursday without fail, & will arrive in Louisville about 29th inst — We have the news here this evening that Mexico has declared War against the United States & blockaded her ports, which creates quite a stir & and may be correct, The "Peytona" is about to back out, So I must bid you good bye, with my best respects to all the family & my best love to you & our little darlings. —

Your Affectionate Husband

C. G. Pearce

STEAM 10

LOUISVILLE

Mrs. C. G. Lance
care G. F. Thomas Esq.
"Cyclone" Cincinnati O.

Louisville Apl 30th 1840

My Dear Wife,

I can inform you that we are well & fondly hope this may find you our darlings & the balance of the family all in good health. — We arrived here this morning about 9. Oclk A.M. and have seated myself to addrs a few lines by Cousin John who leaves this evening for "Simon Kenton" — I have not been up town at the present time of writing, therefore have not rec'd. any letter from you, When I go up, should I find a letter from you, which I hope may be the case, as I feel anxious to hear from you, I will answer it to day if necessary, and if not, I will write you again tomorrow. I hope to be able to visit you next trip. — Should you stand in need of more funds than you have, you will please borrow from Mathew, until I come home, or remit to you, — I hope your health has improved in this, ——— I am gratified, your long and much valued Epistle has just been handed by Mr Davis, and contents have merely been noted, I will answer the items more particularly. —

– tomorrow, I am much pleased to learn that your health has so much improved, and that our little ones are recovering as well as might be expected from their late indisposition with the Measles. – I feel sorry & much hurt & would feel indignant if it could be of any use, for the manner in which you were treated relative to your departure from the "Kinston", Egbert's conduct is not excusable in such cases, let him act at other times as he may, I am almost heartsick, when I reflect that you and the balance of the family have to put up with so many uncalled for hardships. – My daily wish is, that you might be so situated as to enjoy perfect peace of mind on Earth, as I sincerely & truly trust will be your happy lot in Heaven, Poor Mattie I feel more for her, than such language as I can use would express. – May a change for the better soon crop the threshold of our family circle. – Dulin has not been down to the boat, consequently I have no further news from you. – I wrote you from Vicksburg as we left down, and think you must be in possession of it 'ere this, and am somewhat astonished that it had not come to hand previous to the 27th inst. – Now for the Editors &c. I send you Br. Cannon's John

One Barrel Vegetables, containing New Irish Potatoes Peas, Cucumbers, & Sweet Potatoes — Six, (6) dried Venison Hams, One Bunch Bananas — Three (3) Cans Oysters, and I believe Charley has put up some Cake and Sweet Meats to send you for Cousin John, & he has some oranges &c which he purchased & I suppose will give you a part — You can give Aunty's household such portion as you choose of the articles which I send. — I will go in Market here tomorrow morning, and if Strawberries can be had, I will send you some, by the first boat, with instructions to deliver them, it may be too early for them, but I will make the trial, I can send any fish in N. Orleans but could not contrive any plan to get them to you this natural State. — We leave again for New Orleans tomorrow, & expect to have here every 16 days as long as the water will permit as you may see by our Season Card in the New Orleans papers. — I will write Egbert before leaving Louisville We have not as yet ascertained whether the $120 — belonged to the boat or not, as our Cash has not been counted. —

Remember me to all the family & please accept my best love with lots of kisses for yourself & our little darlings. — Your Affectionate Husband

C. G. Pearce

Dulce has just arrived with your kind favor of the 29th inst — I am much pleased to know that such a Calm has taken place at Home, and can inform you that the Mexican War Cry is now all peace, —

C. G. P.

the Wonderful age of our San Pilots, has cost his only Son during his last trip — When he left home the child was in perfect health, How uncertain is Life

Mrs. C. G. Peters,
Oakland,
Co.

Steamer Cincinnati May 3d 1846

My Dear Wife,

We are on our downward passage between Shawneetown & Smithland has detained last night by fog. — With what we have on board, & what we have engaged at points below, will make out a very fair trip, — I hope the articles which I sent you from Louisville will come safe to hand, — I requested Capt. Basham to send you a Box or Basket of the first Strawberries that made their appearance in the Louisville Market and to forward them by some safe hands & pay the transportation & delivery of the same, so if you have the good luck to receive them, you will have nothing to do but eat & enjoy them, which I hope may be the case. — I still anticipate making you a short visit on my return trip should nothing prevent, consequently you may look for me on Saturday night or Sunday Morning 16th & 17th inst. —

Remember me affectionately to the family & please accept my best love for yourself & our little darlings with lots of kisses, & a wish for continuance of your good health

I will write again soon — Your affectionate Husband

C. G. Lance

18

Mrs. C. G. Pearce,

care G. H. Thomas Esqr

Cincinnati, Ohio

Steam Boat

Cincinnati May 12th 1856

My Dear Husband

I have been much gratified in receiving several letters from you, although it was some days before I received the one from Louisville after your departure I suppose it was brought on the mail-boat and taken back upon it and in my possession — I was sorry to hear by your last letter that you had been detained on your homeward trip and hope you may more than make up the time on your return as this is a matter which I feel deeply interested in just now, and I have felt worried fearing I may be cheated out of a visit from you — I will know your anxiety to come home should it be only for a few hours — and my desire to see you is beyond expression for the last two weeks I have lived in anticipation of the time which is fast approaching when I am to see your own dear self — in respects the family are all more along — Mother is rather infirm I am still blessed with comparative good health and feel that I would not complain — I am so much

more nearly than I ever was before at this special time that I feel truly grateful for all that I enjoy - There are some days when I do not feel quite so well as others but this is to be expected with one at anyrate the children have entirely recovered from the effects of the measles, but they are neither of them at all well - Margaret Ann has had a bad cough complaint for some days and appears better to day - her complaint has not ceased altogether, I have given some simple remedies which I hope may help her Dear little Ann Maria is thinner that ever she has been - we cannot see that any thing is the matter but she appears to waste away with general debility - she does not eat sufficient to sustain her - we prepare her many little things that we think she may relish, perhaps she will taste it and that is all I have felt quite uneasy about her and hardly know what course to pursue - I know of no boarding house in the country and at any rate I would rather be in a home of my own - I must be where I can eat when I feel like it and prepare myself such dishes as I fancy - I cannot do this in a strange house - should it be necessary on account of the children I must overcome all my freaks of fancy and go -

I have thought suppose we rent a house a few miles out – and then again many inconveniences arise in my mind – we have no one but the female part of the family to attend to marketing – Mother is failing and cannot market any more – Cousin Jane attends to this part – Egbert being out of business must have a home I do not see how we could move from the city and things just as they are at this time – Egbert is very steady and has some prospect of getting a situation with N. W. Thomas – Holly – Roper is about going in business with his brother when there will be a vacancy for a clerk and I suppose if N. W. can confide in [illegible] he will give him the situation – I feel very much it as his mind is on it and hope he may have the trial – Kate left for Mt Joy this day week and left us with a heart overflowing with a flood of tears – We are through with house cleaning but I do not feel satisfied with our location – I feel very anxious to get out of the close part of the city, I know it is not as healthy here where we are surrounded with houses of all description as it would be farther out where we can inhale pure fresh air – after spending a day at Dentzs and return home I am almost suffocated the air is such a great difference in the air – I have felt so though we must be governed by fate –

the house leaks so over and the room back of my room is flooded when over it rains, by winter it will be very damp and unhealthy and in order to make it at all comfortable would have to undergo repairs. it is my maxim to enjoy always comfort while it is in ones power, and so long as it is not necessary for us to remain in the old house as it will rent at any time I find the more convenient to be more pleasantly situated. Mother says she will be on the look out and take the first pleasant house she sees ——

Capt. A. G. Sears.
Care of Capt. Baskin.
Louisville
Ky.
Pr. Capt. Fuller.

well my dear I expected to write but a few lines and I have written so fast, so my hand could move I must tell the news before closing. Mrs Copp has a little daughter 9 weeks old — when I see you it will be for such a short time that I shall not think of it & I shall want to communicate to you so I must put the greater part on paper. I have written to day to send by William Mother wished Sarah to ask Sylvia if she had seen 2 pair of Eyebe drawers he left there. I want you to ask her for those old table cloths which were to have been mended they will be of no use on the boat and I want them for some purpose — from this time I shall see you in new I see you for what purpose — becoming my dearest husband until that day night I shall be living in anticipation of your affectionate Wife Emily

Louisville May 17th 1846

My Dear Wife,

I arrived here this morning in time for Breakfast, had quite a pleasant trip down, I reached the "Mountaineer" just in time to get on board, consequently met with no delay after parting with you, & she too was the last chance, quite a narrow escape for me. — We have this morning with a very ~~slight~~ trip, but expect to pick up a trip by the way. — I feel quite well satisfied with my short visit home, had a pleasant time, and enjoyed our selves very much, and cannot but call to mind how any will you looked, much better than I expected to find you, I fondly hope you may have a continuation of your health and enjoy yourself by feasting on Strawberries &c. which will soon abound in the "Queen City" Markets. — I feel quite anxious about our little daughter "Ann Maria" I hope however she will soon recover, I desire you to **write me in a few days & direct to Memphis** informing me how she is &c. &c. Say to "Ann Maria" to be a good Girl &

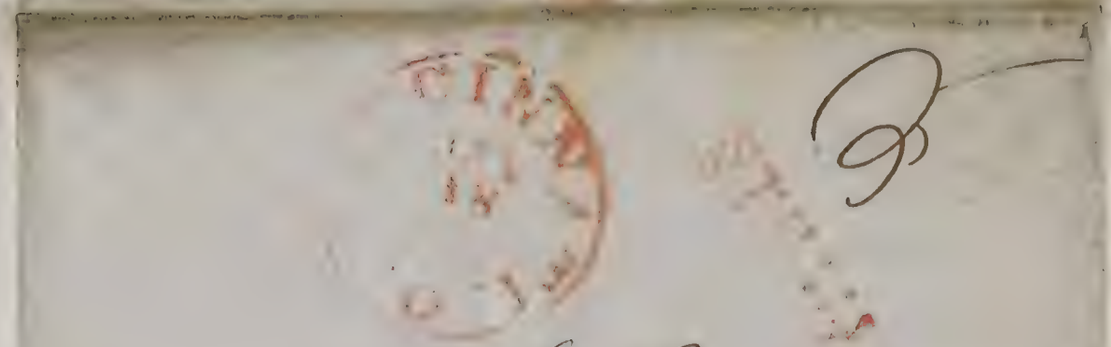
take her Medicine if necessary, and Father will bring her something when he comes home. — The Cake which I spoke of as having forgotten, was sent yesterday by the "Swiftsure" No 4. Egbert will call down for it, if it has not been sent up to the House. —

Remember me affectionately to all the family & please accept my best love for yourself & one little darlings with lots of kisses. —

Your affectionate Husband
C. Gardner Pearce

P.S. — The Diana has just arrived, she left N. Orleans one day after us and brings no further War news of importance

Yours. C.G.P



Mrs. C. G. Pearce
care G. F. Thomas Esq
Bm Franklin No 63 Cincinnati, Ohio

Str "Cincinnati" May 20/46

My Dear Wife,

We are at this time nearing Memphis on our downward passage, with full freight, but considerable falling off in amount of receipts compared with our former trips in consequence of not having neither Passengers or Stock, either or both of which help to make out a good trip. — We are making good time, and expect to have N. Orleans again as per our advertisement Monday May 25th inst. — You will please write in time for a letter to meet me at Louisville 1st proximo, as I feel very anxious about "Anna Maria", but hope to receive a letter from you, on my return at Memphis, with information that she is convalescent. — I think of you all often and much, and sincerely hope on this, you may all be in possession of good health. — Capt. B. will not send the Strawbins from Louisville, as I informed him the "Queen City" had beat them, and thing of the kind would not be any variety. — I have made the request of "Silas" you desired, she says she will

— save them and have them ready for me the next time I go home, She also says there is one pair of Draws which She supposes belongs to Egbert, I will bring them also when I come. —

I Enclosed I send you a Memorandum which you will hand to Egbert. —

My best respects to all the family, and please accept my best love for yourself and our little darlings. —

Your Sincere & affectionate Husband

C. G. Paine

STEAM

10

Mrs. C. G. Pearce,
care G. H. Thomas Esq
Cincinnati
Ohio

First Boat

9

Cincinnati May 30th 1866,

My Dear Husband

It is approaching the time for your arrival at Louisville and the 2 weeks of your absence have been the 2 longest weeks to me I ever experienced every moment has been an anxious moment I have thought several times I should write to you to come home immediately from Louisville, our dear little emaciated Ann Maria has been so very ill & her recovery has been so slow that I have at times almost given up to despondency. I think it doubtful whether whether you would know your own dear child she could not be reduced much more than she is - her little bones protrude all over her body and are so sharp she cannot sit on a chair - Dr Woodward thinks she is convalescent and we all think her some better. For days her recovery will be very slow and gradual and a long time before she will have her usual strength, and be very careful about her diet - she has had no appetite until within a day or two, we obtained young chickens and made soup which she eat with good relish - it will require great decision

to deny her things she may fancy and to keep her from overloading her stomach ——
I told her I was going to write to Father & asked her what I should say to you — she made no reply — I said shall I tell Father to come home and see his little girl she nodded her head yes and smiled — We have all of us been gratified when she would take notice of anything for it has been many days since she done anything but lay on her back or be carried in some ones arms looking more like a being destined for the upper world than for earth — but now she appears in a way to recover and if it is the will of our Heavenly Father I hope she may be spared to us — I desire not to murmur against His will, for all we have is His, and when He is ready to claim His own, should we murmur? I have felt it would be a great trial to part with our dear Ann Maria and at times have thought I could not give her up — but these are the trials of earth and nothing more than we deserve — since we last met we have gone through [illegible] trials, care, anxiety and fatigue some days my strength so weak as the remainder of the family has almost failed us — Ann Maria has been so helpless as an infant and Mother and Cousin have carried her almost constantly with Egbert help occasionally, he has been very

kind and felt deep interest for her — I never saw two more devoted to a child than our dear Mothers and even Faithful Cousins have been — their whole time has been devoted to her and how tenderly they have nursed and watched over our dear child — I can never forget them and hope we may never one of us be separated — I have written you 2 letters, one directed to Memphis the other to Cairo, one of which I suppose you received — I have thought you may possibly come home; I should like it very well but must leave you to act as you think best — our little pet still remains so weak and feeble that a very little would give her a backset, and should you leave Louisville and she become worse it will be very unhappy and miserable — if you do not come I will write on Monday and by that time she will still be improving or no better — you would then have time to receive a letter and come if necessary — I hope to see you the next trip at all events, in the midst of our affliction I will merely make mention of my plants, I have cared for little else but for my child — my Magnolia is out this morning, for the first in all its beauty — it has been a great curiosity — it is pure white, very large and is really a wonderful flower — the other plants are thriving finely and the Cape Jasamine is another curiosity — my health remains as good as can be expected — little Maggie is hearty and the greatest rogue

in existence – Aunty is suffering again with her eye – Cousin is obliged to go there this afternoon which will leave us with more burden – my dear husband you must excuse my careless writing, I have become quite negligent in this branch – but I have not time to sit down and take my leisure

Capt G. G. Pearce
Care of Capt Basham
Louisville
Ga.

the love of each one of the family to you my dearest husband – and accept the sincere love and a sweet kiss from your affectionate

Wife S. Ann. Pearce

Steam. "Cincinnati" June 7/46

My Dear Wife,

We are at this time just above Natchez, on our downward passage, and all well on board, — And fondly hope this may find you, and our little ones, and the balance of our family all in the enjoyment of health, I often think of our little daughter "Ann Maria" and hope she may have quite recovered ere this, but still have some fears of a relapse, as she was very much reduced, and weak, when I left home. —

We have been detained some on our present trip which makes us some later than usual, still I expect to be able to leave N. Orleans on Wednesday 10th inst. as per our advertisement, —

We have had cool weather ever since we left Louisville. — Our arrival may be anticipated at Louisville on the 16th inst. — I hope you will be able to have a letter in readiness for me as I shall be very anxious to hear from you, and hope to be favored with a letter at Memphis on my way up, from my dear Wife informing me of the situation

of our family, and the result of our little daughter's late indisposition, which causes me many anxious moments. — I cannot promise you a visit this trip; unless circumstances should require my presence, —

Report at Vicksburg says that the splendid Steamer "Pytona" had broken some of her Machinery at Natchez on her down trip and was detained in consequence; she may have repaired and proceeded on; in this, the result however we shall soon know, as we are very nearly down to that City, when the "Dunn City" met with her ill fate, which you will be informed upon this reaches you, through the Journals of the day. — My love to you; & all the family with lots of kiss — Your Devoted & affectionate Husband

C. G. Pearce.

STEAMBOAT
ANDREW
JACKSON.

$10

Mrs. C. G. Pearce
care G. F. Thomas Esq
Cincinnati, Ohio

Fast Boat

Louisville June 18/46

My Dear Wife,

I again take up my pen to address you, and as I am blessed with good health and the glad intelligence from you this morning, of your good health, and the recovery of our little daughter, together with fair business prospects would tend to make me feel quite cheerful, — But again another spell comes over me, which causes me to feel quite melancholy, on account of yourself and our family, for the trials and troubles you have to endure, I sympathize deeply with you, and would fain bear the burthen of your grievances, could it be so, but with all this feeling it does not, nor cannot affect in entire ease in your breast, —
I expect to hear for Mrs Adams this morning, — Doctor Sims left to day, and I believe concludes to remain on board, — Should you stand in need of more funds than you have, before I come home, you can no doubt borrow enough to answer your purposes from Mother, —

I have purchased 6 Yds. for dress, and 3 Yds. for Aprons for our little Daughters, which will no doubt please them, but whether you will admire my taste or not, is a matter that I cannot know until I see, or hear from you, I have done the same up in Package form, and send this letter in company with it, —

Mr. Copeland & Lady were again passengers on the Splendid "Pytona" Mrs. C. does not look quite as interesting as when you last saw her, —

I will write you again from some point below, — and shall be pleased to receive a letter from you at Memphis on my return, write in about ten days from present date, and direct to Memphis, —

I must request you, and dear Mother in case of any further trouble, to endeavor to be more composed, —

Remember me affectionately to Mother, and all the family, and please accept my best love for yourself and our little Daughters, — Say to the little pets that Father will come home to see them soon, & they must be good Girls. —

Your Affectionate Husband
C. Gardner Lane

P.S. Maj. Shirley has insisted on me, to request you to come down and spend two weeks or a month with him, he says I will have more time to see you, and you can enjoy the pruning of his large Grape vines which at present has no inmates but himself & small family, you can think of this, he requested me to write for you to meet me here on the return of "Cincinnati", knowing what I know is unpleasant to you, and being from Home is again unpleasant, therefore I do not ask it of you.

Yours

C. G. P

With Small Package,

Mrs. C. G. Pearce,
care Mssp. Rogers & Shenlack
Cincinnati
Ohio

Steamer Cincinnati June 24/46

My Dear Wife,

We are at this time just above Natchez, on our downward passage, all well, and would fondly hope this may soon reach you, & find yourself and our family all in health. We shall be late in getting down, and may not leave New Orleans until Saturday 27th inst. Friday is our regular day of departure, in case I can come home, you may not look for me as soon by one day as if we had complied with our regular day. I may make you a short visit on my trip up, This however will depend essentially upon the State of Water, business &c, I am in hopes of getting a trip of Troops on our return trip from Lamisaille, should there be water enough to let us up, —

Remember me affectionately to each member of the family, Say to our little darlings that Father is constantly thinking about them, and wishes much to see them, they must be good girls & mind Mother & everybody — My dear wife, I feel very anxious to see you, but at present cannot approach you any nearer, than to send you my kind love and affections as a Husband sincere know —

Your Sincere & Affectionate Husband
C. Gardner Pearce

COLUMBIA
JUL
1
ARK.

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Mrs. C. G. Pearce,
care G. D. Thomas Esqr
Cincinnati, Ohio
First Boat

Cincinnati July 1st 1846

My Dear Husband

The time has again rolled round when your arrival at Louisville is as usual anticipated – I have been filled with new hope for several days as it has rained almost incessantly since Saturday and I have felt quite assured the river has swelled sufficiently for the Cincinnati to reach that port, and then as a matter of course I expect a visit from my dear husband – the family generally are in health, and Ann Maria is almost as broad as she is long, her recovery is beyond the expectation of all who saw her, in her sickness, who all supposed her in a rapid decline, little Maggy is as lovely as she can be, and I can assure you a very great pet – I never saw a more endearing child in every respect she is so amiable no one can help but love her I am sometimes much grieved that there is such a great difference between our two dear children – Ann Maria is very ungovernable and it is often a difficult task to subdue her violent temper – I oftentimes feel much

troubled fearing her example may have some influence over our little pet — in the training of our dear children. I feel very sensibly the need of your assistance — and there are times when I feel more incompetent to do my duty, and often when correction is necessary my strength fails me — I feel a greater responsibility resting on me in your absence children look up to their Parents and they are the principal ones to teach and correct — my dear husband I have many serious reflections on this subject — and now is the time to curb them whilst in the bud — I have seen too much of children growing up and tyrannizing over Parents not to feel the great importance of this subject — I pray in the sincerity of my heart that I may never have a child that I shall have to submit to, on account of their cruelty and haughty temper — "God forbid it" and "Blessed Lord" ever bless me and mine with sufficient strength and abilities to do our duty ——— the presents which you sent to the children are much admired, and dear husband I thought your choice a very neat one indeed — the same as I think of all your transactions, well done and with good judgment — we are finishing them to have in readiness on your arrival at Home sweet home

You may thank maj Sherley for me, and tell him I appreciate his very kind and cordial invitation the same as though I accepted it— I will bring my epistle to a close as I have already as usual written to a greater length than I intended to— I set apart this morning to go out and do some shopping it is cooler in the morning than afternoon and I prefer doing all I have to do at that time to-morrow the troops leave, when there will be some excitement throughout the city the next day I anticipate having the society of my dear companion for a short time— Saturday being a day of Jubilee and all business suspended, I must hasten and get through with my small business as this morning is my only chance for this week ——
The children have been to me with a kiss to send to dear Father— Mother and Cousin unite in sending their love, and dearest husband accept a great portion from your sincere and affectionate Wife

J. Ann Price

P. S. I wrote to you a few days since and directed to Cairo, which I hope you receive—

Capt C. G. Pearce,
Care of Capt Basham
Louisville
Ky.

Portland July 5th 1846

My Dear Alice,

We are to leave this morning for New Orleans, and expect to have between 5 & 600 Volunteers together with our other Passengers & Stf. hope to make a good trip which will in part pay for my late disappointment in making you a short visit home, I am not fairly reconciled, but have to make the best of it. — I suppose you will take it quite as hard as I do, but my dear wife you must endeavor to console yourself to this disappointment, and I hope in promise, to repay you with a longer visit, — I sent you 2 Boxes yesterday by Mr Byington in stead of Mr Guyon the gentleman named to be the bearer of them, also a short letter, and sent one letter to the care Misp Rogers & Sherlock containing $50 — I hope you will receive all this, Morning as that was my instructions and request. — The "Swiftsure" No 3 has just Passed up into the Canal I shall hasten and put this on board of her. — We are all well & fondly hope this may find you all in health —

I will write you again from some point below, I hope you will write in time to meet me on my return either at Cairo or Memphis, as I shall be very anxious to hear from you and our little darlings. Say to the little pets that Father feels disappointed in not seeing them this trip. — Remember me affectionately to each member of the family, and please accept my best load for yourself and our little ones, with lots of kisses.

Your affectionate Husband
C. Gardner Pearce

Mrs. C. G. Pence

Cincinnati

Capt. Fuller's

Ohio

Cincinnati July 10th 1846

My Dear Husband

Well my dear here I am seated in the large arm chair writing on a book and looking as lazy as there is any need for - the weather is so excessively warm that we as well all whom we see are completely overcome with the heat - I think it best for every one who can to take it as easy as possible while the heat is so excessive, I for one shall adopt this plan as there is no great necessity for me to make much exertion at this present time - there is much sickness in the city, many complaining with the diarhoea and cholera, morbus we cannot any of us be too careful what we eat as that is the sole cause of so much sickness - my dear I have thought much of you since the warm weather set in - Be careful about your diet and how you expose yourself in the sun - the day that I was anxiously expecting you home which was the 3d of July, our little Margaret Jane was very sick with cholera, morbus she is very fond of raspberries and overloaded her stomach, the Dr came and said the most

be attended to immediately – she was better in a day or two, and yesterday we suffered her to eat some corn good blackberry pie for dinner – in the afternoon she threw up all I suppose she had eaten, which was very lucky, as she has got over it without any further trouble – we are determined to be decided with the children and not allow them to eat any thing but such food as will agree with them – Mother will not have any thing brought in their sight, so if they do not see it they will not ask for it, and we will not have the trial of refusing them – our market is abundantly supplied and we partake of every thing as soon as it makes its appearance we have had peaches, but it is only the name, they are small and not much flavor to them – –

well my dear was not I cheated in not having a visit from you – I looked for you until Sabbath morning – it was no small disappointment to me, I laid awake 2 nights in order to hear the door bell – and when I found you were not coming I could not get over it for several days – I am now living in anticipation of a visit when you return, and I suppose it is your intention to come should all things prove favorable – I am thinking a great deal about the visit I am to have from you which will be of longer duration than a few hours – but I am much afraid it will last only

about a week — What else am I to expect while you are engaged in this business, all I can do is to hope you may soon be out of it, and that I do hope in the sincerity of my heart — Mother, myself and little Maggy are alone, Cousin and Ann Maria have been out to Mr Even's since day before yesterday — they will return in the morning it being Saturday by which time I shall be glad to see Cousin in order to relieve Mother — we are yet without help and I do not like to see Mother working over the fire — there are but few of us and we get along with as little work as possible — I very much wish we could obtain a good housekeeper — but they are scarce. the fruit and all which you sent came safe — the water melon I think was scarcely ripe enough, but some parts of it tasted very well. my health remains very good for me, I often feel much debilitated and I have had so little opportunity for the last 2 or 3 months of walking out, that when I do go out it tires me so and gives me such a nervous headache that I feel quite unwell for some days — the last time we were out we met Dr Mount in a store, he as usual hemed and hawed and looked quite common for a professional gentleman — I shall look for you about Sunday or Monday week, should you reach Louisville — I will now close dearest husband By sending the love of the family and many sweet kisses and Love from your affectionate Wife Ann

Capt C. G. Pearce

Care of W. Halls

Cairo

Ill.

St. Louis Augt. 11th 1846

My Dear Wife,

I arrived here yesterday morning, have closed my business and shall leave to day for Paducah. I shall direct this by Mail from this place, thinking it will reach you sooner than by Steam Boat. via. the River route, I shall be pleased to receive a letter from you on my return to Paducah, as I feel very anxious about the health of yourself, and our little one, during the hot weather, St. Louis at present is a very hot dusty place, I shall be glad to get out of it, The health of the City is generally not very good, about one in every fifty with whom I acquainted have to be just recovering from a bilious attack — I called last evening on the Chappell & Copp families, found them in tolerable health, they asked many questions about you & children, family &c, I think Mrs. Copp calls her daughter "Clara" a kind of

-Lancy name, it is very small, and
Mrs. C. informed me, did not seem
very healthy, - Mr C. says he has enjoyed
good health through the Summer until
Saturday, he is now quite debilitated
although he keeps up and attends to
business. — Mrs. is fancy and as fat
as ever, Mrs. A. too, I should judge
to be in a flourishing State, though
it may be in Missouri, —
I have engaged as master of Ship-
Carpenters here to go to Paducah, to
work on the "Cincinnati", I expect she
will be taken out on the ways on
Saturday or the following Monday, as
soon after as I can see that work
fairly underway I shall start for
the "Queen City" — on my way down
whilst at Louisville I made some
inquiry about a House, Capt Paxton
informed me that they were to make
Peace, but he would be on the
look out, and let me know if there
was any desirable place vacant as
I returned, the Rent for a large
House and good Yard in Louisville
is about $ 350 — per Annum. —

My Dear, as I remarked in my former letter, is that you will be very careful of yourself. I hope Mattie will soon return, and that you have been successful in getting good help. Use this be very careful also, about the diet of our little ones, during the warm weather. I expect you may think that I can give better advice when from home, than the example I set when I am with them, as I am very apt to indulge them, with the luxuries of the season. — Write me at Paducah, should you or the children be indisposed; and I will make greater exertions with my business to hasten home. — My health is very good, and I fondly hope this may find you all participating the same enjoyment. — Say to Cousin, I hope she will have her Polka dog made up and enjoy it a few times during the Summer and Fall Season. You must do as you think proper with yours. — Remember affectionately to each member of our family and please accept my best love for yourself and our little darlings. & Say to them I will bring Pa's love when I come home.

Your Affectionate Husband
C. G. Peace

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Mrs. C. G. Pearce,
care G. P. Thomas & Co.
Cincinnati,
Ohio

Mail

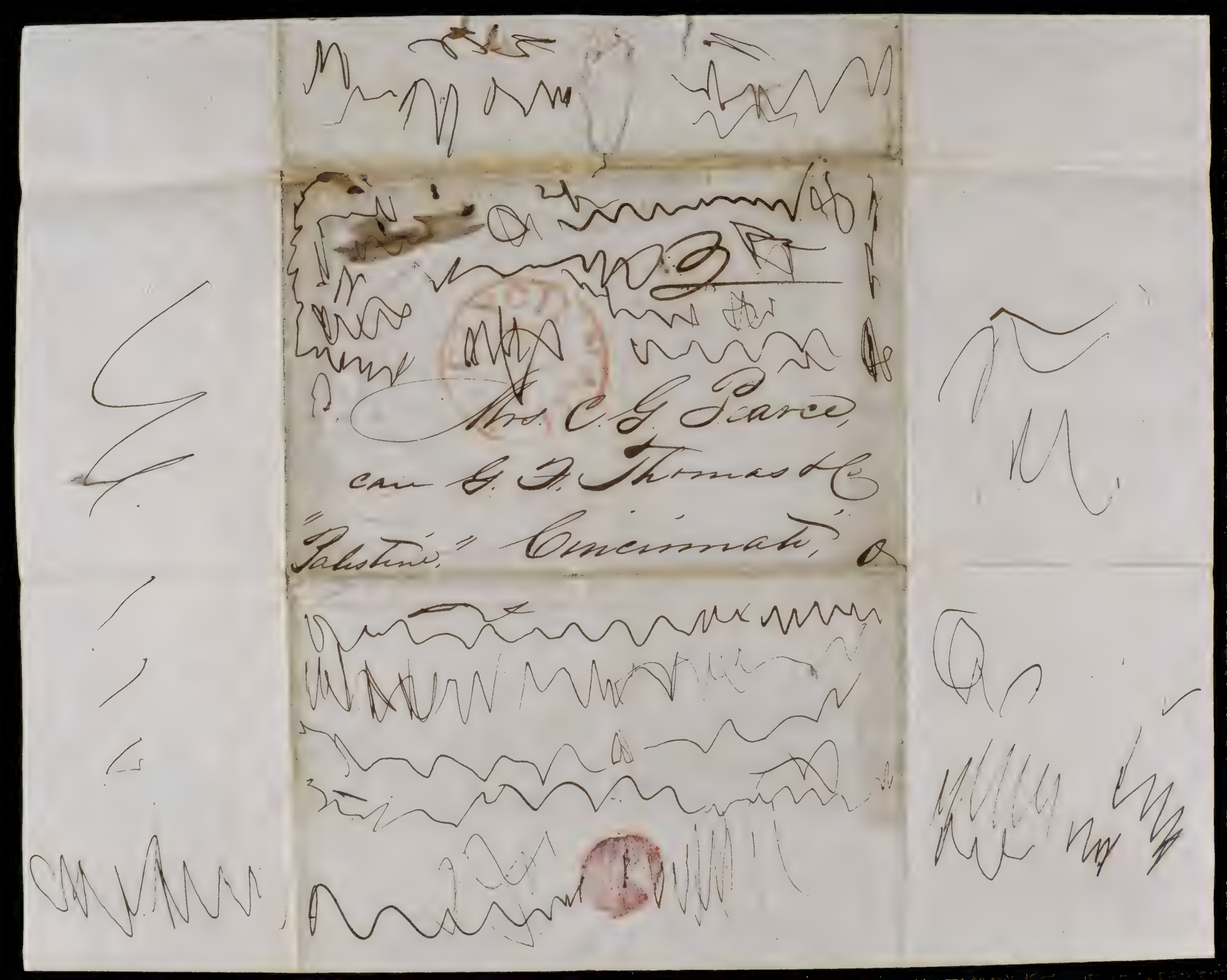
Stmr. "Palestine" Augt 12th 1846

My Dear Wife,

I am at present on the "Palestine" between Cairo and Paducah, on my way to the latter place, — I am in hopes of getting the "Cincinnati" upon the ways the latter part of this week, but cannot say for certain, when I left the time was understood to be positively on Saturday or the following Monday, as soon as I can consistently leave for home I shall do so, I wrote you yesterday from St. Louis to be sent by Mail, but I think from the present stage of the River, this will probably reach you about as soon, — The weather has been very warm in this vicinity, and I have been informed by a passenger on board, who left Cincinnati on Saturday the 8th inst. that the weather was excessive warm, — My health remains good, and fondly hope this may find you all participating the same, —

Remember me to each member of our family, and please accept my best love for yourself & our little pets. — Your affectionate Husband

C. Gardner Peace


Mrs. C. G. Pearce,
care G. F. Thomas & Co
"Palestine," Cincinnati, O.

Paducah August 15th 1846

My Dear Wife,

I hasten to answer your kind favor per. Capt. Fuller no. 6 day, a Steam Boat is in the distance, and I shall endeavor to get these few lines on her, as they are the only chance for communication, and must be right boats at that, Denial have been compelled to stop her, on account of the stage of Water, one took for the "Peytona" and Denial others which will not be able to go higher than this place, — I am much pleased to learn that you were all in health on Wednesday, Myself and Dutie are in good health, and must acknowledge that I am better pleased with Paducah than I expected to be, the Table at the Marshall House is very fair, and our sleeping apartment is excellent a large room with two beds it is situated in the 2d Story fronting on the River where I can see every thing that passes up or down, if you were fond of travelling I should urge you to come down here with me on my

return, thinking you might be benefited by a change of air and scenery, during the warm weather we have had. I did not sleep uncomfortable a single night my room was so well ventilated, within the last four days we have had almost constant showers which has cooled the atmosphere very much. — In consequence of the inclement weather we cannot be taken out on the Bays until Tuesday 15th inst. as soon as my business will let me off, I shall head for home, it is quite probable that I may write you again upon hearing. —

Tomorrow will be Sabbath, I expect to attend Church at least twice, there is three Churches in this place, which speaks well for its size. — Friday evening we were to have had a Concert for the benefit of one of the Churches, it however was indefinitely postponed on account of the inclemency of the weather, the same form of course that might be expected in large Cities. — Col. Masons our Host is a Frenchman very polite and full of fun, Mrs. M. also is a good Grand Motherly kind of lady, and my communication, she has invited me to find a resting place in

her Parlour, perusa her Books &c, and has from the force of argument endeavored to persuade me that Paducah is a very healthy place and possess many natural advantages, like all other river, and small towns, some of, the reasons are that the fogs which are common in most places, never become so thick but what they can at all times see the opposite bank of the River, this is accounted for in part by the Sun rising in the East, and on the right side of the River. — Capt. F, informed me that his Mother was better, but that Emma was much afflicted with her eyes. — I am much pleased to learn that you help, I hope she will prove to be of service and that you will be benefited by it, My Dear you must be careful about exerting yourself, and likewise your own health, and our dear Children, I hope soon to be with you, I shall feel very anxious until I return, say to our dear pets that Father will soon come home, — I hope you have been relieved ere this, by Heathers presence home, or a letter from her, — Remember me affectionately to our worthy Cousin & the balance of our family & please accept my best love for yourself & our darlings. — Ever Sincere & Affectionate Husband

C. Gardner Peace

STEAM

10

Mrs. C. G. Pearce
care G. H. Thomas Esq.
Cincinnati Ohio

Cincinnati Aug 13th/46

My Dear Husband

I have just made up my mind to sit down and give you a scolding for not fulfilling your promise, in writing every few days to your lonely and almost forsaken wife; before I got ready to chastise you a letter arrived per Steamer Palestine; I was surprised to learn that you had been to St Louis, thinking you would not leave until the Mate returned to take charge of the Cincinnati; I am very glad that excursion is accomplished, and hope when you return I shall have your undivided attention with no fears of your running off to Down again; I thought if you were remaining at Paducah all the time, it was very strange I had not received a letter ere this, but your absence explains all; the weather last week was most excessive, I think we have not experienced such heat for years; I have felt

very miserable for several days, and have had no appetite for anything; for 2 days I suffered with severe pains in my bowels, something like the Dysentary, I took some warm brandy toddy on going to bed, which relieved me — the children have suffered with the heat and been broken out with pimples almost all over their bodies; it has caused them to be very fretful and restless, they felt bad and knew not what ailed them — — — —

I have received 2 letters from N. York, one from Egbert, the other from Mother; they were very well, but made no mention of coming home; Mother stated, Egbert wished to stay awhile to see how things terminated — did you ever hear of anything so perfectly ridiculous; I am ashamed of Egbert, that he does not possess more spirit and dignity — although he thinks, he is made up of both these qualities; his letter to me was a very unkind and severe one, he did not like the contents of my letter to his very honorable Caroline; I view her as a most perfect piece of deception he thinks my insinuations to her, unwarantable and that I wrote from passion and prejudice

he wishes me, and every other member of the family to have nothing more to say about the affair, as Caroline has acted strictly honorable; I said nothing about her honor, he gets entirely off the point, and barks up the wrong tree; Mother says Egbert is very unhappy who thinks his happiness depends on his union with this block of perfection; and still he does not want her to marry him unless she loves him; I expect he will stay until she marries Mr Wood, and will then commence drinking to drown his sorrows; I fear Mother will yet have trouble in getting him home; I have written her 2 letters, and mentioned to her my very anxiety I am most of the time, and my great anxiety to have her at home; if he persists in staying after all this, he is no Egbert to live. This is Saturday afternoon, and I have written in order to have my letter in readiness for Mr Lane, who told Charles he would leave about Monday, and would call for anything I wished to send. I suppose I may look for you the last of next week — I wrote to you last week by William, which no doubt you received on your return from St Louis — — — — Monday morn. I have

next

had the satisfaction of perusing your letter mailed at St. Louis - I noted all the items - you speak of renting a house at Louisville - my dear I think you had best not engage one before returning home - if it is ~~of~~ more to your interest to have me settled there, I am willing to go - I shall have an opportunity of seeing you more frequently - which is the height of my happiness - if my Mother and most inestimable Cousin Ann will with me, I shall leave no very strong tie

Charles has informed me that Mrs Lane will not leave Louisville before Tuesday or Wednesday at least disappointed, as I think the longer he stays here, you will have to stay when you come - Mr Lane & your dear Wife and Miss Ann, unite

Your affectionate husband
J. A. Rapp

Capt. C. F. Peace.
Steamer Cincinnati
Louisville, Ky.

behind me; I have many friends whom I think very highly of, but as I do not have many opportunities of going out to visit, I may as well be in one place as another - my dear I should object to leaving the city before my confinement - you know my attachment for Dr Woodward - leaving my Physician, is the greatest obstacle in the way - it is not very pleasant to the most of females to employ a stranger at this particular time - and before our friends could come to hand, you may be ready to leave steamboating, and we back to the old homestead - Tuesday morn - Mrs Chapman was married, with a young daughter the morn

Paducah Ky. Augt. 18th 1846

My Dear Wife,

This is Sunday evening and we are not yet on the Ways, but a probability that they will commence on us tomorrow, the "Cincinnati" is considerable longer than any Boat which has ever been taken out here, consequently it has taken some preparation to get every thing in order, since the last boats were put off, I am in hopes of having the "Cincinnati" safely out, and my work so far underway, that I can leave him for home towards the latter part of the week, say about the 22d inst, I may think advisable to remain longer, the River too is getting quite low, and I may have a difficult Passage up, You will therefore not make any Calculations on the time of my arrival, at present it would be quite difficult for me to conjecture — We have very Pleasant Summer weather, quite warm through the middle of the day, and very Cool and pleasant at Night, — Louis has not been very well this afternoon, he probably has eaten too much Fruit, which is very abundant,

My health remains good, and fondly
desire, that this will reach you by due
course of conveyance, and find you
and little ones, and the balance of
our family, all participating the same
unbounded blessing. — The Steam "Champion"
has been laid up here for some time,
I understand from the Mate, that he
is looking for Capt. Swanson, or Jacketts
by the first Boat down, — I feel anx-
ious to see you, and our little pet,
and hope soon to be gratified, say to
our little daughters, that Father has not
forgotten them, and will soon come home,
Since I last wrote you Sabbath has
intervened, which I spent quietly and devo-
tedly, reading my Bible, and attending
Church, and in my Meditations came to
no other conclusion, than how happy are
the Souls, who can with sincerity and
meekness call God our Father, and
Heaven our Home, When we are assured
of our verdant Spring without Winter, Day
without Night, and Peace without Sorrow, to
crowds ages Eternal. — Remember me to
to all the Family, and please accept my best
love for yourself and our little pet, with
lots of kisses. — Your Sincere and affectionate Husband
C. Gardner Pearce

Mrs. C. G. Fearn,

care G. F. Thomas Esq.

Cincinnati, Ohio

Paducah Ky. Augt. 24/46

My Dear Wife,

This is Sabbath afternoon I seat myself to communicate to you a few thoughts, and inform you of such that have occured, and come within my knowledge during the past few days since my last to you. — I have attended Church to day, and several times through the past week, the Baptist Society of this place have held a protracted Meeting which has caused quite a revival in this Church, and the work is still going on, to night they meet again, — in Paducah at present, the Watch word seems to be, that this is a Gospel time, But in looking over the Congregation from time to time there seems to be too many like myself penitent and almost resolved in their minds to become Christians yet as it would seem from frivolous causes, objections unconnected, and excuses of a thousand different natures, never embrace the offering of Salvation that is held out to all, How great is the difference as we look down upon christian well wishers, and Christians of the present day, To be a well wisher of Christianity, and

honorable in all cases with your fellow
men and with things as they should be
in our thing, But to be an acting Christian
and obey the Commands of God, abiding
in his Covenant and laws, and fulfilling
duties towards his fellow creatures, is quite
a different thing, Hence the difference
between the slothful acting penitent yet in
his sins, and the parable of the Prodigal
Son, who is represented as being in a far
country, or lost in sin, he at once makes
the resolve, manned all obstacles, and says
I will arise and go to my Father's house
there plead and to Heaven, confessing
his sins in a penitent manner, —
Geo. B. and Nicholas have returned from
Iowa, found their friends in tolerable
health, except their Father & Brother Johns'
little girl, who are somewhat indisposed,
Emily J. as well as myself is in the enjoy-
ment of good health, — We all attended
church to day which made quite a deputation
from the "Encampment". — I rec'd a letter from
Charly a few days since stating that he had
disposed of the "Champion", I have since
been looking for him, or some one belonging
to the Boat to come down, — I suppose
by the time you receive this, you will be
looking for me, But at present I cannot

day but I shall for hear to remain here one week longer, or thereabouts, it will however depend upon circumstances tomorrow, the "Cincinnati" is out on the Ways and the first calculation was to block her up and let her remain for some 10 or 15, but now it seems to be the opinion of some of the head men of this incorporated Town that they will let the Boat remain on the Ways as she lies, and do the work and put her back in the River within the space of 8 or 9 days, should this latter plan go into effect I shall desire to remain until she is launched and the work so far completed, that I can leave until such time as I may desire to start the boat out for the Gulf Season, In the other, or previous plan was to block up the "Cincinnati" and take out the "Wasenga" on the Ways below us, should this still be the event, I shall in all probability come home and spend a week with you, I shall send this by the first Boat & will write you again as soon as I am apprized of the movements of the Waters, relative to the action & decision of the Select men of this Town, the Ways are City property and require town for any Step taken, — Remember me to each Member of our family, and please accept my best love for yourself and our little ones.

Your affectionate Husband, Graham Pierce

5

Mrs. C. G. Pearce,
care G. F. Thomas Esq
Cincinnati, Ohio

Paducah Ky. Augt. 29th 1846

My Dear Wife,

I can inform you, thro' Divine favor, that we and all in health, except Cousin Nicholas, he is complaining, and has not been well since he returned from Iowa, May this soon reach you, and find you, and our dear family sharing the same inestimable blessing, is the sincere desire of your ever affectionate Husband, —

This is Thursday morning and repairs are going on, I watch its progress day by day, and am constantly think of you, and contemplate the happy hours I shall spend in our little family circle on my return, In my anxious moments meditating on the welfare of yourself and our little daughters, I often think how pleasant it would for me, and equally so to you, if all my leisure time could be spent in your society, in this we will not be void of hope, thinking such may be the case ere long.

I hope you will not be disappointed in seeing Mother at the time you may have cause to look for her, from the tenor of

In last letter, and that his travel to New York and sojourn there, may be attended with present and ultimate good, — I hope you have had some easier time, since you have been in possession of a Dutchy and that she will not fly the track and leave you. — Charley is going ahead with the reports of the "Champion" and has taken hold faithfully himself, there is no charm like hard work, —

I have conditionally sold my Farm Iowa, to Carver George, and can take the Amount of his Services in payment for the same, this arrangement will Suit me at present to Sell, and for aught I know a Spell of Sickness, —

Almost every Steamer from New Orleans brings up some of the Volunteers, who have been disbanded from the Army on account of Sickness, and are making for their respective homes, We have had several Sick here, which have been put off of Boats, and without doubt many are left at different points without money or friends, and in the hour of death have no friend to take them by the hand, nor any relation to bid a last farewell, there is no doubt but what our Government has treated the Volunteers very badly, by President Polks' office Seekers

they have been gulled out of their pay and distanded in a Southern Climate without money or friends to make the best of their way home, of those who remain the Climate will kill ten where the Mexicans will kill one. —

Last night, and night before I attended Church the revival is still going on, Mr Gallagher the Preacher who is here on a Tour and has been holding forth for some time is a sound reasoner, I have become aquainted with him, he informs me that he preached in Cincinnati about Eleven years ago. Tomorrow Evening his Subject is to show that the Bible is a Divine book and wishes all who are Skeptical on the Subject to come and hear him, I have an Subject to take along with me. It is Charley Stinde my old Mate, who is now an the "Champion". — If all things work well I expect to be able to leave here one week from to day, I expect the time will seem long and hang heavy with you, But dear Wife, I hope you will have fortitude to bear your up under the disappointment. — Remember me affectionately to each Member of our family & please Accept my best love for yourself and our little daughter with lots of kisses. —

Your affectionate Husband. C. Gardner Pearce

10

Mrs. C. G. Pearce,
care G. F. Thomas Esq.
Cincinnati, Ohio

Paducah Ky. Augt. 31st/16

My Dear Wife,

I can inform you that we are all in good health, except Cousin Nicholas, he is on the mend, May this find you all in health is my sincere desire, — Yesterday was Sabbath and a very beautiful day, it reminded me of Spring, I attended Church in the Morning and Evening, and Sacrament Time through the week, Since I last wrote you, the Meetings are still held but I cannot attend to night, I have attended nearly all the Meetings and have become quite attached to them, as I have had no Society nor knowing to attend at night the time has been spent very pleasantly, and I would hope for present and ultimate good. — Our repairs are going on, I must ask for a little longer indulgence, which you will no doubt think very hard to grant, this delay is in consequence of rainy weather the latter part of last week which caused the Carpenters to suspend operations, I hope as I have before requested, that you will be able to bear up under all these little disappointments

and not look for me at any particular time, fearing a day or two may intervene either of bad weather, or some other detention that I am not at present aware of, I think about Hour & days fair weather will set us off the Bays and then I am up for the first Boat bound for the "Queen City". — I shall send this by Capt. Gazaway who leaves on the first boat, he has been called home to see a sick Brother, by letter intelligence through me, he seems to feel very grateful for the favor, and attention which I have shown his Brother, the Young man at present is able to travel, though quite weak. — Charley is going ahead with his repairs, he has learned to night by Capt. Gazaway that the "Champion" has been sold but friendly considers it is only a Summer report that was in circulation before he left Cincinnati, as the Sale is said to be made to the same person who had been trying to negotiate. — I have many pictures in my mind, to form a pleasant time on my return home, I hope to find you all well, and know that the Society of yourself our little ones, and our little family circle cannot afford me any thing but happiness during my sojourn with you, which may be for some time, the length how can I tell be

governed by business. Stage of Wednesday. — Say to our little pets that Father is very anxious to see them, and no less than dear Mother, I hope soon to be gratified for a mutual interest, and anxious feelings of all. — I was in hopes of being back in time to help Sharon with you in our Grape Vineyard, should this be soon I can easily provide myself by purchasing in the Market. — I hope our dear Cousin has found and occasion to wear her Polka, on this, I also hope you will have the pleasure of meeting our dear Mother at home, before the due time of this letter to reach you. Charley rec.d a letter from Egbert a few days since, I believe he did not answer it, it was principally about Wife C and Mr W. &c. — Our Landlady has engaged me to procure and either send or bring her some good Tea from Cincinnati. She like most Ladies fond of tea, thinks there is magic almost in genuine Article. —

Remember me affectionately to each Member of the family, and please accept my best love and lots of kisses, for yourself, and our little darlings. —

Your Sincere and Affectionate Husband

C. Gardner Peace

Mrs. C. G. Pearce,

care G. D. Thomas Esq.

Capt. Gazaway B Cincinnati, Ohio

Louisville Sept. 20th 1846

My Dear Wife,

I did not get off from Cincinnati yesterday until the 12. o'clk Mail Boat. — I was detained engaging a Steward, Cook, Chambermaid &c. all of which were on the "Queen City" last season, from what I have been informed relative to the Chambermaid I think she will suit, she is an elderly colored Woman and has been on the "Q. City" the two last seasons. — I arrived here this morning at 4. o'clk, and expect to leave for Paducah by 12. o'clk I hope this may find you all in health, and hope you will feel reconciled in my absence. — I feel the loss of your Society, and often think of you and our little Darling darlings Remember me to all the family, and please accept my best love for yourself and our little ones.

Your affectionate Husband

C. G. Pearce

Mrs. C. G. Fraser,

care G. D. Thomas Esq.

Pike No. 8 Cincinnati Ohio

Paducah Sept. 29/46-

My dear Wife,

I arrived here last evening all well, I have only time to say a word as the Packet will not wait, to expect to hear from Cairo tomorrow. I was Express on his way up on board the "Sallie Anderson". - I hope this may find you all in health.

Your Affectionate Husband

A G Rawn

11

Mrs. C. G. Pence
care Mrs G. F. Thomas &
Cincinnati, Ohio

Cairo Oct. 4th 1846

My Dear Wife,

The "Cincinnati" arrived here yesterday Morning after considerable detention by being aground between this place and Paducah, We are making up a trip for New Orleans and expect to land him to day, or tomorrow morning should the boats looked for from above not arrive sooner, We also have competition in abundance, which causes what is done to be performed for almost nothing, - I will write you again from Memphis and give more particulars relative to our trip, - We are all well on board, and fondly hope this may find you all participating the same, - I have felt quite lonely since I parted with you, & often think of the society of yourself and our little daughter, - Charley was well when I parted with him at Paducah, I have to inform you that Egbert was in one of his drinking spells whilst at Paducah, but finally tapered off, I hope for his, and your sakes he will remain as he should do, - I send you per Capt. Whitten one small Phial Head Ache Remedy which is to be applied externally on the

parts affected, I tried it and found it effectual. — Please write at your leisure and direct at Cairo, Care of N. Falls, — I rec'd. your letter by my clerk bearing date Sept. 25th. —

Relative to Delia I cannot give her any encouragement at present, the old Chambermaid atout which I wrote has arrived & from the recommendation which she bears I feel disposed to give her a fair trial, —

Remember me affectionately to each member of our family, and please accept my best love with lots of kisses for yourself and our little darlings,

Your Sincere & affectionate Husband

C. Gardner Peaice

With Small Shed

Mrs. C. G. Pearce
care Mrs Rogers & Shulack

Mrs Rod will please send this to the House

Cincinnati
Ohio

Steamer Cincinnati Oct 9th 1846

My Dear Wife,

We are approaching Memphis all in good health, and with as good trip as I could reasonably expect, and much better than I anticipated when I last wrote you, which was from Cairo. — I shall send this by mail via Nashville, and hope it may soon reach you, and find yourself and our family generally all in health. I often think of you and our darlings, and sincerely hope that all things have moved on rights, and that nothing has, or will take place to distrust your peace of mind, at this time you must try to be composed and endeavor not to let any thing trouble you, — I expect to be back at Cairo about the 20th inst, and hope to find a letter from you, I will write you again from some point below, We have been aground about 24 hours at Island No 21. — being about half way between Cairo and this place (Memphis) I found all the Papers which I was looking for whilst at home. —

Remember me to all the family and please accept my best love for yourself and our little ones with lots of kisses. — Your affectionate Husband

C. G. Pearce

Via. Nashville Tenn,

Mrs. C. G. Pearce,
care Msp. G. F. Thomas & Co
Cincinnati, Ohio

Mail

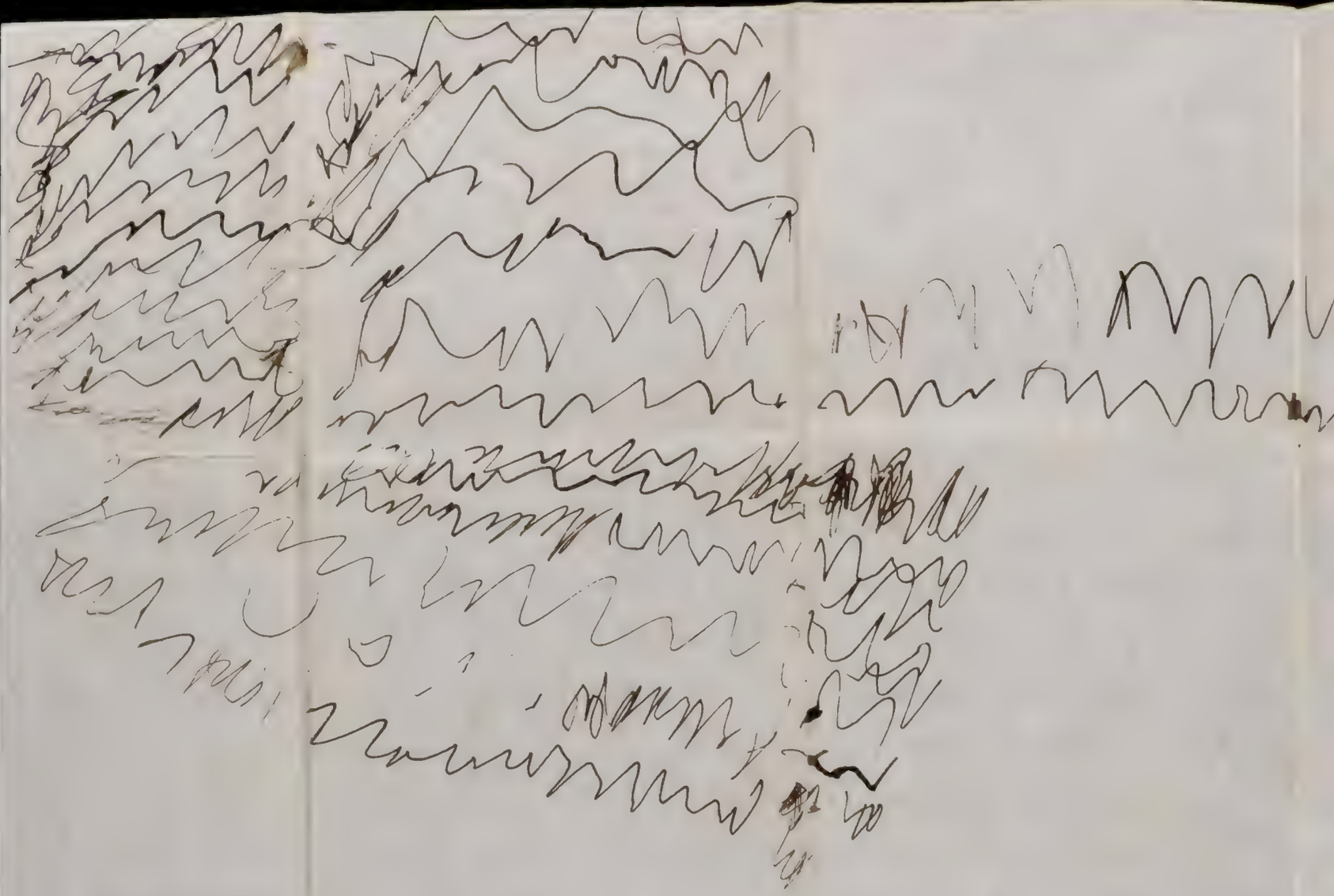
Steamer "Cincinnati" Oct. 9/46

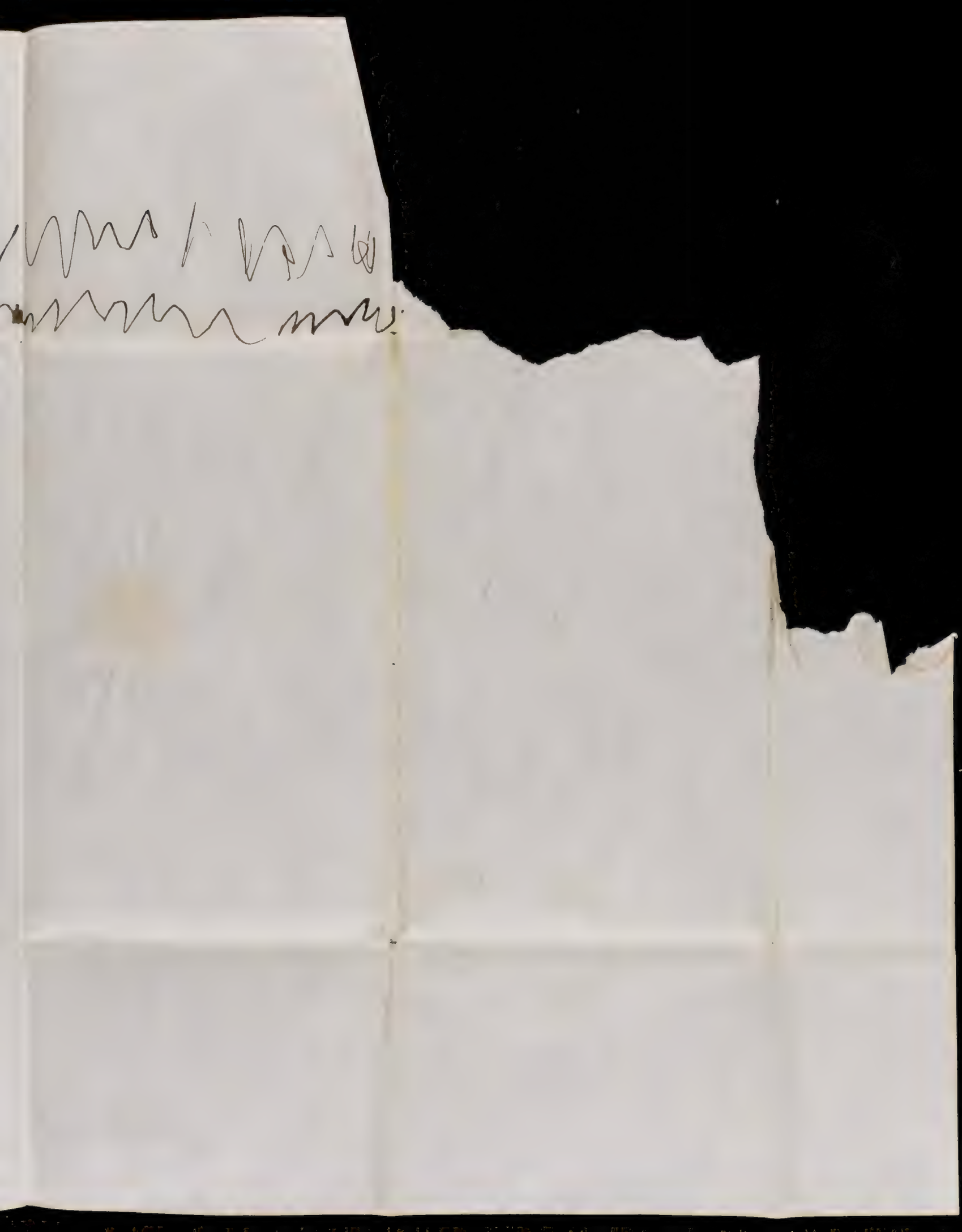
My Dear Wife,

We are at this time a few miles above Vicksburg in our downward Passage, have had quite a Pleasant time since I last wrote you from Memphis. — We are well on board except Dutch he is again quite indisposed with the Chills and Fever. — I hope this may soon reach you, and find you, and our family generally all in health, I often think of you and our little pets, and no doubt have the same feelings reciprocated to by you. — To day we have been putting out a number of our Passengers along in the Bends at their respective homes, many of them are as might be expected that headed Mississippians, amongst the New Orleans Papers, are Mrs. Burke formerly Miss Conrad, She moves in State fully equal to her accomd, and withal is as bold as a Lion. — I hope all things are going right at home,

Remember me affectionately to all our family & Please accept my best love with lots of kisses, for yourself & our 3 little daughters. —

Your affectionate Husband
C. G. Pearce





Oct 22/46
Mrs. C. G. Pierce,
care Mssp. G. F. Thomas & Co
First Boat
Cincinnati, Ohio

Steamer "Cincinnati" Oct 17. 1846

My dear Wife,

We are at the present time on our up trip about 40 Miles below Memphis, all well on board, and fondly hope this may soon reach you, and find all at home in the enjoyment of health, I often think of you, and our little darlings, and often wonder and sometimes conjecture how you are getting along, I sincerely hope that nothing has taken place to in any way disturb your peace of mind, — The weather has changed very cold since last night and we suppose it may be caused by rains above, if so we may have water to let us up to Louisville should it turn out otherwise we shall return from Cairo about 20th inst, — And on my return trip you may look for me home, agreeable to previous understanding, Say before the middle of November, — Our principal up trip is Salt which we have the privilege of storing, in case we cannot get up, — I expect to have

this at Memphis to go through by land mail via Nashville Tenn, unless I hear on my arrival at Memphis of a rise in the Ohio. — Dalton is well again and I hope may in future escape the chills. I feel very well and to day the change of weather has been so great that it has reminded me of your notice to beware of the sudden changes of weather. To protect myself in accordance I have put on thick drawers and two pairs of socks as I have no thick ones with me. I hope you will keep sufficiently warm to escape taking cold in your present situation it would be very severe. — Say to our darlings that Father will come home after he makes another trip to Natchez and in conclusion dear Wife allow me to advise you to keep up good resolutions, and bear with fortitude whatever may take place with as an exciting or depressing nature. —

Remember me affectionately to each member of our family, and dear Wife please accept my best love with lots of kisses for yourself and our little darlings

Your loving & affectionate Husband.

C. G. Pearce

Via Nashville Tenn.

MEMPHIS TENN
OCT
19
Te.

Mrs. C. G. Peace,
care E. F. Thomas & Co
Cincinnati, Ohio

Cincinnati Oct 21st/46

My Dear Husband

As I have some idea you will reach Louisville on the present rise of water, I thought I would drop a few lines to inform you how we are moving along— in the first place, we are so busy in the sewing line that we have scarcely a moment for thought— or reflection; Cousin and myself have got along remarkably well, and if our lives, health and peace of mind are granted us we shall be able to complete all next week— my room is all in order, which is very necessary as I have been threatened several times with sudden sickness, but I do earnestly hope it may not come before the expected period; a few days ago I directed a letter to you at Memphis for you to receive on your present trip down I wrote to you that it would be necessary for you to leave Cairo on your return trip; and if all things move on as we expect, you will arrive at home in good time — —

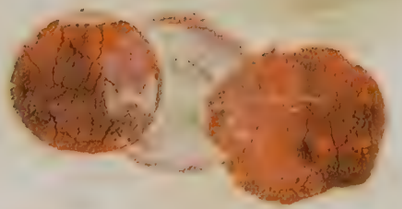
I have just had quite a fright, we heard the screams of a female in the street, and on

looking out saw a nice comfortable market wagon before the door which a horse and dray loaded with barrels run into; a crowd collected around the wagon and pulled 3 children out, and last though not least the affrighted Mother. Mother made her way through the crowd with her check apron on and brought them in the house, she is making her what all ladies like a cup of tea, after which I suppose she will feel like pursuing her journey — they are movers going to Tennessee — the drayman had to fork over to the countryman which he did not much like — — — — — well dear husband I must be brief as I am waiting this to send by William at 10 O'clock — this is the 3d letter I have written you, I hope you may receive all of them I suppose I must not think of seeing you from Louisville, I have flattered myself you might probably have business up, but if you do not come I will endeavor to bear it with fortitude — the dear children are in good health and are so much company for each other — we sit with our work in Egbert's room and have a cheerful fire, the children are in the next room and have a complete play house — they are down stairs with those little children, or they would send their kisses as usual — — much love from your sincere and affectionate Wife J. Ann Pierce,

1846

Steam 10

Capt C. G. Pearce,
Care of Capt Basham
Louisville, Ky.



Cairo Oct. 22. 1846

My Dear Wife,

I rec'd your kind letter bearing date of the 5th inst. on my arrival at this place yesterday, — We are again loading for New Orleans and find as an answer to our trip much competition, Cairo presents quite a commercial front during the low stage of water, scarcely can lay down 8 or 10 Boats, — I rec'd a letter from Mssrs Rogers & Shubrick of the 16th inst, stating that the Monongahela and Kanawha Rivers had risen, and quite a rise might be anticipated in the Ohio, which has since been corroborated by the information from the last Boat down, I hope we may be able to reach Louisville with the "Cincinnati" next trip, whether or not you may look for me home, — On our trip up we were again detained nearly 48 hours at Island No 21 — I hope Egbert returned in safety soon after the date of your letter, which would tend to relieve your anxiety I shall look for a letter from you

on my return, should the Ohio rise to any extent you had better direct to Memphis as boats will be most likely to stop at that point. —
Why this soon reach you and find you all in health, we are all well as usual, — I often think of you and our little darlings and dare hope to see you, and be able to gratify little "Maggy" as long as such must take place, I hope all may be well. —
My dear Wife I hope you will be able to keep up under your present condition, with the expectation of seeing me home in time, I will send you from Memphis and probably from some point below. —
Remember me affectionately to each member of our family and please accept my best love for yourself and our darlings, with lots of kisses. — Ever Yours and Affectionate Husband
C. G. Peace

Mrs. C. G. Lance

care Wm G. T. Thomas & Co

"Uncle Ben" Cincinnati, Ohio

Steam Cincinnati Oct. 25, 46

My Dear Wife,

We are at the present time on our downward passage about 20 miles above Memphis, with a very fair trip on board. — We are all well on board and fondly hope this may soon reach you, and find you and our little family, and family friends participating the same enviable blessing. — We have had good luck on our present down trip thus far, as we have not been aground or detained by any other accident. I look forward, that time is, no doubt but I shall have plenty time to reach you before the 15th Nov. and take the Cincinnati again from Cairo or Louisville, whichever point we may be able to reach on account of the stage of Water. I hope however from the latter place. — I will write you again from some point below — Keep up good spirits and the time will soon wind round my return home, — May all things go on as well, as you can reasonably expect at home. — Say to our little ones that Pa the will soon be home. — Remember me to all and please accept my best love for yourself + our little ones, with lots of kisses — Your affectionate Husband, C. G. Ferd

Via Nashville Tenn.

Mrs. C. G. Parce
care Mssrs. G. F. Thomas & Co
Cincinnati, Ohio

I have rec'd a letter at Memphis

Steam. "Cincinnati" Nov. 10/46

My Dear Wife,

We are at this time about 75 Miles below Louisville on our up Trip, all well, We have been detained about 34 hours waiting to meet the rise to let us over Cumberland Bar, I hope to receive favorable information from you on my arrival at Louisville, if so, I shall remain to help haul the "Cincinnati" and then proceed Home, I rec'd 2 letters from you at Cairo, which were soon, and diligently perused, I feel my thankful for them, and hope you have been able to write me at Louisville. —
I am very anxious to see you and our darlings, and hope I may be in time for the coming occasion, — Your request has been complied with, I purchased in N. Orleans, Three small Chairs which I will bring home with me, Say to our darlings that Father will soon be home. — Remember me to Mother and all the family & Ishan accept my best love for yourself & our little ones. —

Your affectionate Husband C. G. Pearce

Mrs. C. G. Pearce,
care G. F. Thomas & Co
Post-Office Cincinnati, Ohio

Stmr. "Cincinnati" Nov 12/46

My Dear Wife,

It is quite possible that I may remain here until tomorrow morning, my intention was to have left for home this morning, and perhaps I do wrong in remaining, but such is the disposition here, that I am compelled entirely against my will to stay and defend the "Cincinnati" knowing if I do not, she will not be protected, we have unfortunately arrived in port with the last Boats except here, to wit. "Uncle Sam" "Empire" "Great Taylor" "Atlantic" &c. &c. and all Louisville go in favor of their own Boats, and oppose to any thing from this rival and superior City Cincinnati, I hope I may get he in time, should I not I shall regret it very much, although my attention to business here is very much required. — I saw Mr Deane this morning he informs me that the whole family have returned to Louisville to settle permanently. —

Your Sincere & Affectionate Husband.

C. G. Pearce

Mrs. C. G. Pance

care G. F. Thomas Esq

Pike No 7. Cincinnati, Ohio

Louisville Dec 2nd 1846

My Dear Wife,

I expect a letter from Cousin Jane after the opening of the Post-Office, and by its contents, I hope to learn that you are gaining strength, my health as usual remains first rate, it will give me great satisfaction, and peace of mind, when I can again see you in good health, and I sincerely hope and trust such may be the case, as soon as the nature of your present illness will admit. P. M. Up to the present time of writing we have not heard of the arrival of the "Cincinnati" at Portland, She will however be up this morning without fail, The prospect is now that we will not leave here before Friday, Cousin Jane will therefore write me as late as Thursday which will be in time, — I would like much to see you and our little Twins a few minutes, But the space between us obtains it otherwise. —

Remember me to each member of our family, and please accept my best love for yourself and our little ones

Your Affectionate Husband
C. Gardner Pearce

Mrs C. G. Pease

care G. F. Thomas & Co

Cincinnati Ohio

Louisville Dec. 7th 1846

My Dear Wife,

We arrived here this morning about Sunrise, and expect to start again for New Orleans, about 12. O'Clock – We are picking up some Passengers, the morning is raw and disagreeable, which is something against us in the way of business – I hope your health will continue to improve, and by the time I return I hope to learn that you are going about House and enjoying yourself, as I return I shall be pleased to hear from you at Memphis, and on my arrival at this City – Remember me affectionately to all the family, and accept my best love for yourself and the little ones with lots of kisses –

Your affectionate Husband
C. Gardner Pearce

Cincinnati Jan 7 1847

My Dear Wife

I wrote you yesterday, but being engaged I did not put my letter on the Steam Boat consigned to you, but at on the Com. Perry I hope you will receive it today — I have not rec'd any letter from you to day, but hope you may be coming through and a comfortable as you could reasonably expect I am much out of the society of my wife and little ones, and hope soon to enjoy our little family circle. — Capt Lanier still persists the same that he has previously offered, I shall await the arrival of the "Cincinnati" and ascertain what she has done on her present trip if things prove gloomy, at a quite likely I may accept the proposition made however, I shall keep you advised of my movements daily. And hope in exchange to hear from you. — Remember me affectionately to all the family and please accept my best love for yourself and our little ones. — Your affectionate Husband

Cincinnati not yet arrived, C. Gordon Reese

STEAM

Mrs C. G. Pierce,
care Mrs G. F. Thomas & Co
Cincinnati
Ohio

Louisville June 20. 1864

My Dear Alice,

Cousin Lillie of Saturday is at hand & am pleased to learn that you are more comfortable and hope you will continue to gain strength, — The "Cincinnati" will leave here to day and tomorrow I shall leave for home, perhaps I conclude to take, which may detain me some longer. I have just power to sell at what has been offered, I have not seen Capt. Lester to learn understand he is somewhat irresponsible, consequently I may not do it, but conclude will know at present. — I get my business on your account to settled as soon as my business will at all admit of, — Remember me affectionately to each member of our family, and dear Lizzie please accept my best love for yourself and our dear children. —

Your affectionate Husband
C. Gardner Penn

Store, Jay Franklin St.
Feb. 22nd 1847

My Dear Wife

We are at the present time of writing, in the most dreadful storm of snow & wind, that I ever witnessed in my life. It has been blowing a perfect hurricane all day, & the snow is drifting in such quantities that it is impossible to get out of doors. The roads are entirely blocked up, & the mail has not arrived for two days. I have been very busy all day, & have not had time to write to you, but I shall endeavour to do so this evening, as I am sure you will be anxious to hear from me. I am very well, & hope you are the same. I have been very busy all day, & have not had time to write to you, but I shall endeavour to do so this evening, as I am sure you will be anxious to hear from me. I am very well, & hope you are the same.

Yours affectionately
C. Gardiner Prince

"S. B. Talma"

5

Mad. C. G. Pearce
care Wm G. F. Thomas Co
Cincinnati, Ohio

First Boat

Memphis Mch 17. 1847

My Dear Wife,

We are at Memphis on our downward voyage, all well, our trip is not quite as good as our previous one, although very good, — I hope this may find you all in as good health as usual, I have not time to write more, I will write you again from Vicksburg. —

My love to all the family & please accept my best love for yourself from your little darling

Your affectionate Husband

C. G. Peace

Mrs. C. G. Pearce

care Mfg. G. F. Thomas & Co.

First Boat Cincinnati, O.

New Orleans March 21/47

My Dear Alice,

We arrived here this morning after quite a boisterous passage from Natchez down; all safe. — I expect to leave here on Wednesday 24th inst. — You may look for me about the 2 or 3 D. proximo. — Our prospect is fair for a good "trip up." — I shall send this to "Pike St 8", and hope it will suit you in due time, and find you, and our dear Children in. better health than when I left you, I often think of you, and without accident dont expect to see you, and desire to find you fully recruited from your late cold. — Yesterday was very boisterous so much so that we were compelled to lay by a part of the day, to day it is pleasant with a cold North Wind. — Remember me to all the family & friends accept my best respects for yourself from little ones

Your Affectionate Husband.

C. G. Peace

Louisville Apl 14th 1847

My Dear Wife,

After a pleasant nights Passage, we arrived at Louisville about 9. O'Clk. this morning, and shall cross the Falls about 10. O'Clk, and procure an other Passage for the "Sunny South." We have a full freight, and quite a goodly number of Passengers, Although on the whole our receipts will not be as large as either of our former trips, in consequence of our freights being at lower rates. Yet we have a profitable trip. — I think much of you & our dear Children, & desire as the weather becomes pleasant that you may take plenty of exercise, both in Walking & Riding, and procure such little delacacies as you may relish, in order that both may greatly improve your health and strength. — Relative to moving, you will select whichever situation yourself. Mother & Cousin may think will render you the most comfort, if Mr Lidlington's House is the most desirable & Comfortable make arrangements to go in it, —

I suppose the House on Broadway might be rented for from $400 to $450 — Mother had better let Mr Huntington and others, in case she should not bargain with Mr. H. — know that her House is for rent, in order to find a tenant before the renting season has too far elapsed. —

Whichever House you may determine on, select either of the Carpets we were looking at, have it made and put down if you think proper. I am here too fast in making arrangements for the Broadway House as it would require painting even after we get possession of it, which is not possible before the 1st June. —

In the event of your wishing to go in Mr Worthington's House select one of the Carpets above mentioned, the quality of either is about the same, for myself I have not had choice enough to decide, the dark pattern is no doubt the latest style and is certainly very beautiful, nothing can be urged against the other, choose which you may fancy and that which you think will be the least trouble to keep clean — You might ask Charley & Kate to go around and help make a choice. — I will write again from some point below. —

Dear Wife, Spring is now here, and the weather will soon be permanently pleasant, fail not to enjoy as much of it, in any way as will do you good, — For little delacies you can get birds of different kinds at the Restaurants, and new Vegetables will daily make their appearance in the Markets. I hope you enjoy all. — I will bring a little of any thing that I think you will relish from the South. — I shall be pleased to hear from you at Memphis on my return. — May your health improve and Children daily [illegible] from their late sickness. — Remember me to each member of our family and please accept my best love for yourself, and our little Boy

From your sincere & affectionate Husband
C. Gardner Pierce

Mrs. C. G. Pearce,
care Mssrs. G. F. Thomas & Co
"Ben Franklin" No. 6 Cincinnati. Ohio

"Ben Franklin No 3" May 16/67

My Dear Alice,

We are at the present time 10. o'clock A.M. approaching Louisville, all well, I shall proceed on, as soon as permission is given to go into the Canal. — The receipts of this trip, will be larger than either time I have been on the "Franklin" if we succeed in getting a good trip back, it will be very good when added to our down trip. — I hope you may enjoy yourself during my absence, take the air when pleasant and exercise by riding and walking out — Mrs. Stearns & Cole, Columbia St. is the place to apply for the Horse & Carriage which we used yesterday — We have no trouble with the troops on board, they conduct themselves very well. — I will write you again from some point below —

Remember me to each member of the family & please accept my best love for yourself dear little Trio Your affectionate Husband

C. G. Pearce

Mrs. C. G. Pearce,
care Mrs. ~~S. F. Thomas~~ C.
Ben Franklin No 6. Cincinnati, O.

Ben Franklin No. 7. May 23/64

My Dear Wife,

We are at the present time of writing on our downward passage a few miles above Natchez, We have been aground about 15 hours a few miles above Memphis, since I last wrote you, — All well on board, and gladly hope this may down each you, and find yourself, our little Boys, and the balance of our family all in usual health, — I have nothing very intresting to write you. The troops keep very quiet except a few, whilst we were aground the troops were put on shore, one of which deserted, to day as we were leaving a wood Yard, one of the Soldiers sprang to a point of land projecting into the River, and made his escape to the woods, before we could land the Boat and I called to two white men & Several Negros on the bank, to pursue & catch the runaway Soldier, and they would be entitled to a bounty of Thirty Dollars this request they immediately complied with and started with hounds into the woods to chase, I staid about 1/4 of a mile, and

about the time we were fairly
landed, the Posse were returning
bringing their victim by main
force, this caused quite a sensation
of hurrahs and rejoicing by the
balance of the troops, — we were soon
underway again. — Our trip remains
about the same as when I last wrote
you, we neither add nor diminish
in any perceptible way. — I suppose
Strawberries will be plenty for you
ere this. I hope you will enjoy them,
I think I can as well afford the "China
Tea Set" this trip as any that may
follow, Thus you Cousin may gratify her
curiosity and taste by selecting a full
Tea Set of such Style and Stripe, as she
may fancy, at the lowest Cash price
payable on my return, She had better
look around and secure the most
approved fashion & Style in her estimation,
and then all things must be right, regarding Tea etiquette arrangements —
Remember me affectionately to each member
of our family & please teach my love
yourself and and little Boss. Say to the
little girls they must mind my body & play pretty
in the Yard, and little Sonny must be good & learn to
keep his nose clean. Your Affectionate Husband, C. G. Pierce

Mrs. C. G. Pearce,
care Msrs. G. F. Thomas & Co

Cincinnati
Ohio

First Boat

Louisville June 22d/47

My Dear Wife,

I arrived here this morning in safety.— I have been engaged with the Quarter Master this morning & have only time to say a few words.— at present it is not probable that I shall be able to leave here to day, for the reason that I cannot receive an Answer from the Quarter Master relative to transportation of the Indiana Regiment, I shall have time for home as soon as this matter is decided, whether or not I get the transportation of the Troops.—

Remember me affectionately to all the family & please accept my best love, for yourself dear little Ada,

Your affectionate Husband

C. G. Pearce

Mrs. C. G. Pearce

care Mrs. G. F. Thomas & Co

Cincinnati

Ohio

Mrs G. F. Otto will
please send to Home

Louisville Augt. 30th 1857

My Dear Wife,

I am well, and fondly hope this may find your health still improving, and the balance of the family with you at Northampton in good health, I rec'd a letter from Egbert yesterday just before leaving City, and also saw one from Cousin Jane to Mrs. Fuller, I see by them that your health is improving, and Egbert's relieved from late tapping, I suppose he is in N. York at this time, as he requested me to remit him funds soon after receiving his letter. — Should you want of funds I can remit you, or let the last part of your bill remain until I come on, I spoke to Doct. M. respecting it before I left. —

The weather here for the last few days has been cool for the season, but now it is pleasant & seasonable again, this has been a very healthy & pleasant Summer in City, & this vicinity, nights generally cool enough to sleep well. — I hope you will be able to visit Round-hill. Mount Holyoke &c. before leaving

Northampton, ride as much as you can in pleasant weather if your doct. approves of it. I think recreation and pleasure would help your husband — Elsie and the little girls, I want to see them again very much, Say to them I heard of their going blackberrying the other day. tiring and staining their dresses which I suppose was a small matter with them compared with the enjoyment they must make the most of September, and then be ready to return to their own Dear City & Studies, with delight & vigor, Mr. Wilbur's School commenced again this week we have been taking up a number from Lansingburgh, Troy Albany &c, who all seem pleased to return & I suppose anxious to meet their young friends and renew their associations. —

We had a tremendous trip of Clapsings down yesterday among the number was Mrs. Stuiskbo Lady of this City. Mrs St. has been making her first tour to Falls of Niagara. Eastern Cities &c & she returns much delighted with her trip, & thinks the North & East is a great Country. —

Please accept my best love for yourself & the balance of the family. — Your affct. Husband

C. G. Rand

DEATH OF CAPTAIN C. G. PEARCE.

Captain Christopher Gardner Pearce died of paralysis, at the residence of his daughter, in Racine, Wis., last Friday, after an illness of over six years. The remains have been brought to Cincinnati, and will be interred in Spring Grove tomorrow.

The deceased was widely known in commercial and river circles throughout the West and South as an extensive owner in steamboat stock, fire and marine insurance and mineral and other stocks. He was born in Washington County, Rhode Island, February, 1811, and consequently was at the time of his death in the seventieth year of his age. The place of his birth is within a few miles of Newport and Narragansett Pier. He was raised well up in boyhood on a farm, and his first employment in business was in a country store and tavern near the place where he was born. He next engaged in a hotel in Providence, and afterwards clerked in a hotel in Boston, and coming to Pittsburg in 1834, he was for a time clerk in the old Exchange Hotel. At Pittsburg he commenced his long river career by shipping as clerk on the steamer Alton, which afterward plied in the Natchez and New Orleans trade. He afterwards went to St. Louis, and was clerk with Captain Perin on the steamer Missouri Fulton, plying the Upper Mississippi. When Captain Perin stepped off to build the unfortunate steamer Monsoon, young Pearce took charge of the Missouri Fulton, which subsequently sunk between St. Louis and Alton in 1838. The same year Captain Pearce built the steamer Monsoon, at Cincinnati, and finally sold her, her machinery—single engine—going into the side-wheel steamer Annawan. The next boat he built at Cincinnati was the Goddess of Liberty, in 1841. She plied between Cincinnati, St. Louis and New Orleans. He sold her to the late Captain Joseph Scott, who built the Fort Wayne out of the Goddess of Liberty's machinery. Captain Pearce then built the steamer Cincinnati, at Cincinnati in 1845—the first long boat plying between Cincinnati and Pittsburg. After making a few trips to Pittsburg he took her below the falls, and ran her awhile in the Louisville and New Orleans trade, when he sold her to Captain E. T. Dustin, who built the famous Louisville and New Orleans steamer Bostona from her machinery and outfit.

It was in the year of the Irish famine and Mexican war—1847—when Captain Pearce, with P. W. Strader as clerk, took charge of the Ben. Franklin No. 7, and ran her between Cincinnati and New Orleans, it proving a very profitable season.

Captain Pearce, with Captain Henry A. Jones, Pat. Rogers, Thomas Sherlock and others, built the Hiram Powers out of the Ben. Franklin No. 7, Captain Pearce commanding her in the Cincinnati and New Orleans trade. About this period he became a stockholder in the Louisville and Cincinnati United States Mail Line steamers. He traded off the Hiram Powers to Captain Hiram Hawley for the steamer J. M. Niles. Captain Pearce and his partners then bought the Ben. Franklin No. 6, and built the steamer Europa out of the Franklin. He commanded the Europa two seasons in the Cincinnati and New Orleans trade. In 1851, he was appointed Superintendent of the Louisville Mail Line, holding that position, in addition to that of President, for more than twenty-two years, having, besides the management of the affairs of this noted and successful company, superintended the construction of the famous gothic Ben. Franklin, low-pressure Jacob Strader, Northerner and Southerner, Telegraph, and over fifteen other steamers of this line. He also owned, with Captains Goslee and Church, both deceased, and others, in the famous Memphis and New Orleans Packet Line, in which investment he lost over $20,000. He was also a heavy stockholder in the Atlantic and Mississippi Steamship Company, whose steamers plied between St. Louis and New Orleans. In this investment he lost over $40,000. He was also a stockholder in the Cincinnati, Big Sandy and Pomeroy Packet Companies, and held stock in at least twenty other steamers. He was, besides, interested in numerous fire, marine and life insurance companies, holding the position of Director and President in several, and was largely interested in silver mining enterprises in Colorado and New Mexico.

He married his first wife, Miss Jane Ann Sackett, in Cincinnati, in 1840, by whom he had four children, two of whom are now dead. The eldest daughter married Major J. A. Grover, formerly of the firm of Pearce & Grover, of this city. She died in this city about eight years ago. Captain Pearce's first wife died in 1851. He afterward married Miss Virginia Gordon, of Washington City, D. C., in 1864, by whom he had three children.

Captain Pearce was not a member of any secret organization, and he was a man of moral, charitable and Christian character. He usually attended religious service in this city at St. Paul's Episcopal Church, of which, up to the time of his illness, he was a vestryman. He was noted for his regular, systematic habits and untiring energy in the discharge of the duties of the business he pursued. His social qualities were distinguished, and he was the fast friend of Jacob Strader, Pat. Rogers, Jas. Gorman, Captains John Armstrong, John J. Roe, of St. Louis, J. Blair Summons, A. C. Montfort, Moses McLellan, Humphrey Godman and Charley Dittman, all of whom are dead. The charitable element in his nature was as unbounded as its manifestation was unostentatious—only himself and God knew the extent of his benefactions. He who began life a poor boy, amassed several large fortunes. Even as late as the close of the rebellion he could have closed up his accounts and retired from business with at least $400,000, but a series of losses swept the great bulk of his fortune away. Many who are now dead owed their start in life, and their successful passage through critical periods in their business careers, to kindly assistance furnished by Captain Pearce; and many who are living will hold his memory in grateful remembrance for favors received at his ready hand. He took a deep interest in young men struggling to get a foothold in business, helping them on with words of brave encouragement, sound advice, and in a multitude of instances with generous supplies of means. His own lips never uttered what he did, but the writer could recount many instances of his bounty. In humbler ways, too, he evinced the generous impulses of his nature. Supplies of food and coal would find their way to the homes of sick draymen and deck hands, and of the widows and orphans of river men, and forever with the recipients would the donor be a mystery.

1943
1866
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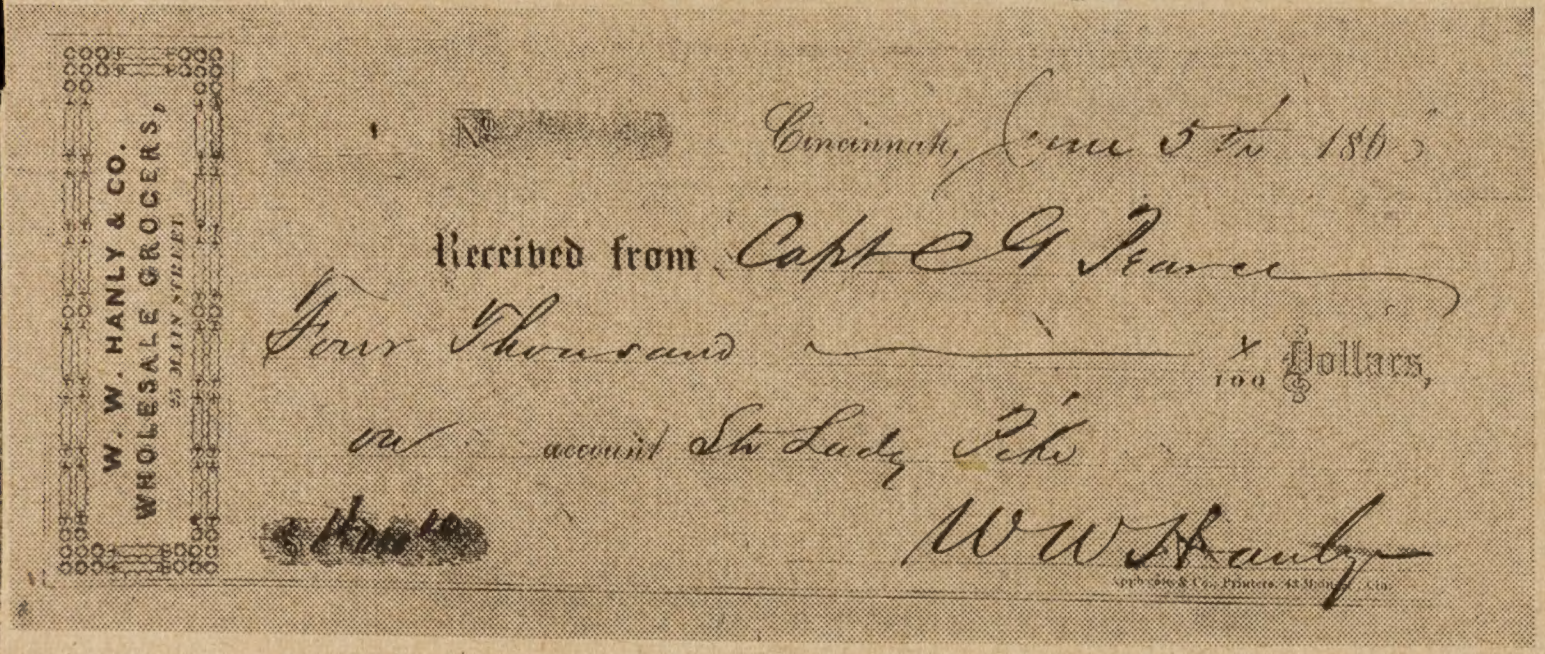
THE CINCINNATI TIMES-STAR—Tuesday, Feb. 23, 1943

TURNING BACK THE CLOCK



—Courtesy Frank C. Sherburne, 605 Forest Avenue.

Meals that eclipsed legendary Lucullus feeds were cheap and abundant and one could have eight cups of coffee if one so desired. This reproduction is proof that the owners of steamers wanted to satisfy the largest of appetites. It speaks for itself. Four thousand dollars for groceries. Wow!

Copy & clipping attached

This biographical sketch appeared on the editorial page of a Cincinnati, Ohio, newspaper, either the Cincinnati Enquirer or the Gazette, in December, 1882. Captain Pearce's old residence at 116 Broadway, new number 320 Broadway, built by him in 1850, is now occupied by Veterans' Memorial Headquarters.

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